



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Part 3: Relationships

Icebreaker: Share your most “real” BeReal photo and share what you love about it. Don’t have the BeReal app? No problem. Kindly hand your phone to the person with the closest birthday to yours and allow her/him to choose one candid photo from your album for you to share with the Small Group.

1) Read the following quote:

During Lent, we ask God to show us the world as it is. We begin with the reality of our finitude rubbed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday – from dust we were made, to dust we shall return. Then, we walk through the reality in a kind of dress rehearsal. It’s the downward slope of God – the Great Descent, where the whole church walks toward the cross.

Frankly, Lent is my favorite part of the church calendar, because it is a time when the whole church is on the losing team. A time when we all get a minute to tell the truth: Life is so beautiful and life is so hard. For everyone.
(*The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days*, Kate Bowler)

What above speaks to you most? What about life is “so beautiful and so hard?” Finally, do you agree it is that way for “everyone?” Why or why not?

2) Quick question (no judgement whatsoever): *Are you fasting during this season of Lent? Why or why not?*

3) Read John 19:23-27 aloud as a group. Then share some of your own key observations about this passage. *What are some elements which stand out to you? Why do you suppose the soldiers are mentioned? Where have the multitudes who use to follow Jesus gone? What can you say about those who were there at the sight of Jesus’ public execution? Describe the relationships you see here and how they have manifested in other sections of the Bible (ex: John 2:1-12; John 20:1-18)*

4) What does the phrase “too HEAVENLY minded for any EARTHLY good” mean? Share some examples of where and when you might notice this dynamic taking place in your own life as well as in the lives of those around you.

5) Women play a significant role throughout Scripture, especially in the life and ministry of Jesus. For instance, four women (and only one man) were there in Jesus’ LAST moments of life ... and it was also a woman (Mark 16:9) who was the FIRST to see the Resurrected Christ. Why are these such significant factors?

6) What is the primary difference between the first two “words” of Jesus in Luke 23:32-43 and this third “word” in John 19:23-27? What is the role and/or relationship between *Present-Day Realities & Eternity*?

Extra Credit: Interested in becoming a mentor?
Interested in connecting with a mentor?
There is a place for YOU.
Scan the QR code to learn more.

