

GROUP QUESTIONS: The Art of Peacemaking Wk 2 - w/ Lisa Bartelt

Announcements:

Save the Date for Sunday, May 21 - Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

1. What's your favorite quick snack?
2. Take a minute to summarize with your group the main point of the message from Sunday and/or briefly share what stood out to you the most.
3. Lisa explained how neighborhoods used to be basically friendly places. Today she wonders if they are largely places where we have more fodder for fear and hate. Ralph Yarl and Kaylin Gillis were recently both shot after accidentally being in the wrong driveway or at the wrong house. How have you noticed this dynamic of more fear and hate play out in your life? ie. the places you live, work or frequent
4. What or who do you think of when you think of kindness?
5. If we own businesses or are in positions of leadership how can we make systems where kindness is the expectation? What can we all do to help create ecosystems where kindness is expected and rewarded?
6. Jamil Zaki says that online the first thing we encounter about a person is often the thing we like least about them. "They are enemies before they have a chance to be people." Discuss how the internet and technology hurts empathy by making it more likely for us to dehumanize people. Can you see this dynamic in your online experiences?

7. In Michael McRay's book I Am Not Your Enemy, we hear the quote "I've just met the enemy, and I've seen his humanity. Where does that leave me?" How might physically facing someone impact the way you treat them?

Knowing our physical presence with someone impacts how we see them, what are some ways we might tangibly put ourselves in places to face people we might be tempted to dehumanize?

8. "Kindness not only starts with us. It also starts within us." How can we see kindness to ourselves creating kindness to others? How might a lack of kindness to ourselves end up in a lack of kindness to others?