Welcome Everyone! Fabric Groups are a regular, long haul space to share, care, trust and grow with others inspired by the conversations and experiences we have in common as Fabric.

## Opening ideas

Welcome! Pull out your clay. Invite others to do the same. One With Everything has us wondering about our relationship with prayer. Something I value about the chance to talk about this together is...

Choose a prayer to open your group. Maybe it is one you've memorized or something you just found in a book or googled. Maybe it is a poem or song lyrics that open you up.

Read through the **Group Agreements** on the back/page 2. You might pass them around and take turns reading them.



5 mins

"MAKE ME ONE WITH EVERYTHING."

Intro idea

10-15 mins

Share names and a hot dog memory, a favorite street food or a joke.

## **Discussion Question Ideas**

30-60 mins

Have your notes from this week's message (outline) handy.

- 1. Word association warm-up. See if you can go around the group 3 times, each person sharing a synonym, antonym, character, story... or anything that comes to mind with the word PRAYER. Then check out the Menti results!
- 2. What is prayer to you? Watch the interview Melissa shared Sunday to spark some of your own memories, thoughts and questions. Give everyone 5 minutes to share theirs. You may want to split into smaller groups - or take the whole time for this all together!
- The homework invitation was to work with your piece of clay and make a bowl each day to "hold" a concern. How has that been for people? Has anyone tried anything else that felt like practicing trust?

"Prayer is a way to practice trust.

**Ideas to Close** 

Invite everyone to write on a slip of paper (or put in chat): Note a THANKS, HELP or a WOW on your mind or heart as you end. Collect them all and re-distribute/exchange so everyone's is (unhurriedly) read back by someone else. May it all be so!



## **Group Agreements**

- 1. **Push pause.** The world is noisy. Before speaking, take a breath.... let Silence be a voice in your Group.
- 2. **Be present.** Your being here matters! Step up to share when you are ready. Step back to listen.
- 3. Share what you want when you want. You don't have to do anything you don't want to do.
- 4. **Confidentiality.** Always ask before sharing anything outside the group, even if it is with the most supportive of intentions.
- 5. **Wonder over judgment.** Starting to feel judgmental of yourself or others? Get curious with open and honest questions. Ask "how" not "why" to be on a tour, not a trial of yourself and others.
- 6. **Listening is a superpower.** Listening to others share their own experiences, struggle and strength is empowering. So is being listened to!
- 7. **Speak from your own experience,** to the whole group. Avoid crosstalk, fixing, interpretation, or unsolicited advice or help.\*

\*Anne Lamott called help "the sunny side of control." But we do need feedback, care, support and help sometimes! If someone asks, clarify first "What does support look like right now? Or How can we/I use this next 20 minutes in a way that would be helpful?" If someone doesn't know or is in crisis, pull out your Care IQ tools.

These agreements are practiced, not perfected! Circle back with the group or an individual when (not if) you mess up or to share how something felt to you. How to apologize. Practice when it's easy! Early and often.



