



# DANGEROUS BOOK

April 23, 2023  
Fabric Group Guide  
Dangerous Book - Week 2  
Dangerous Role Models

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. Enjoy this time! - Melissa

## Opening ideas

10-15 mins

Welcome! *Something I value about this chance to talk about this Dangerous Book, the Bible...*

TO HAVE HANDY: Some paper, pens, a couple of bibles and this week's [outline](#).

**Light a candle. Taking your time, ground in this prayer:** *Breath, settle in. You aren't perfect, you and I have some major problems, flaws, and deficiencies. That isn't okay or not okay. It is the way we are, Sister Rock and Brother Stone. It is people like you and me, because of who we are, and despite who we are, that will weave the world together, if we dare! MAY IT BE SO.*

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

**Intro/Check-In:** Share names and a high, low and/or a favorite superhero of your childhood.

## Discussion & Practice Ideas

30-60 mins

*"The Bible, if we dare to get to know it and live in dialog with it – not be commanded by it but live in dialog with it – can make us bigger. It can make us part of something bigger than ourselves."* -Approximate quote, Greg Meyer

1. Read the statement above as a lens for considering your own relationship with the Bible. Here are some versions I've heard: *"For me, the Bible is like an ex-boyfriend I was really into but now I look back and wonder, what I was thinking!?"* // *"It's been a strange and significant voice that has led me to many other voices."* // *"Toxic. The most judgemental and mean people I have known are the ones who read the Bible the most."*

What about you? How could you characterize your relationship with the Bible up to this point? Revisit the prompt *"Where I come from..."* if it helps. Share stories!

2. [This week's homework](#) suggested 5 Bible readings to take a look at using the tool of S.O.A.P. Choose one of them to read together (look it up [here](#), ignore ads); give people 5 or so minutes to write out some thoughts.

Share what you discovered about the process or something that came up in your writing. Stay curious together and see what happens.

### S.O.A.P.

**Select:** Select a line, a phrase, a section, a word.

**Observe:** Read again, make notes. What details do you notice? What connections? What do you notice about its larger context?

**Apply:** To your life and our world. Use compassion and curiosity not judgement and guilt.

**Pray:** Sit with the reading and your thoughts. There may be words you want to say, ask or just be.

## Ideas to Close

5-10 mins

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!





# DANGEROUS BOOK

April 23, 2023  
Fabric Group Guide  
Dangerous Book - Week 2  
Dangerous Role Models

## 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.*

