2020 Youth Revival Project A World Turned Upside Down

Discussion Guide for Youth Groups

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for watching our videos. We have seen in the weeks of isolation that worship need not be confined to a sanctuary. We have

seen that social media can be a way to spread good news. We have seen that brief messages can be poignant and thoughtful. We have seen that there are blessings in these upside-down times. The 2020 Youth Revival Project is an effort to share messages of hope.

We also know that this crisis has revealed glaring inequalities in society. As faithful people, we are called to co-create God's vision for a world of health, wholeness, and safety for all.

Jesus gives countless models of 'flipping the script,' and turning the status quo on its head. We hope this project will prompt you to think about your own discipleship, and rededicate yourself to expressing God's love, compassion, and justice.

START WATCHING

Preview the videos here on Youtube

Plan to view the videos together as a group and reflect. Each one is only one minute, so the total is less than 15 minutes. You can view them all at once, or look at the three segments for a particular theme and pause for conversation in between. This resource can also be used as a conversation segment of your gatherings over a period of weeks.

DISCUSS

Use these open-ended questions, or feel free to create your own! Close with a scripture reading and prayer. Then invite your youth to dig deeper and express their own creativity. SNEUCC Discipleship Team will offer stipends to all entries that are published. Details are printed below.

Belonging (videos 1-3)

Who is "everyone" mentioned by Dr. McIntosh?

Where do you see exclusion or barriers to access in your communities (school groups, church, etc.)? How can you extend that welcome to others?

What does your church do to be a public witness to inclusion?

Read John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."



Leadership (videos 4-6)

Have you ever been to Silver Lake? If so, what leadership roles did you try out and how did that feel? Or, describe a leadership role have you have taken at your church or school. What leadership skills would you like to develop? are you What do you think makes a good leader?

Read Micah 6: 6-8

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Fear (Videos 7-9)

Even while you have been isolated, what practices have helped you feel united to humanity? Where or how do you feel close to God? What are you grateful for today?

Read Matthew 6: 25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Achievement (Videos 10-13)

What is your favorite or most effective way to communicate with others? What do you imagine is God's vision for the world and how can you help co-create that world? There is a virus of racism that has also spread across our country. What is one step that you can take to address injustice?

Read 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

Discipleship (video 14)

Jesus flips the script on death and gives us a message of hope.

Where do you find hope in these difficult days?

Where have you witnessed compassion, courage, or beauty?

What does it mean to you to be a follower, a disciple of Jesus? What do you sacrifice, what do you gain?

Read Matthew 28:16-20

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

CREATE YOUR OWN RESPONSE

Want to hear from YOU! Send us your reflection discipleship in times of Covid-19. It can be video, audio, or simply text. We are looking for spoken word, poetry, blog posts (up to 450 words) video reflections, art work or original music. If you send artwork or original music, please add your own written description of your inspiration for your piece and the creative process.

Send your entry to Debby Kirk <u>Kirkd@sneucc.org</u> along with a three sentence bio (grade, hometown, church, fun fact) and a headshot. Include signed <u>media release form</u>. All entries that are published will receive a stipend of \$50.