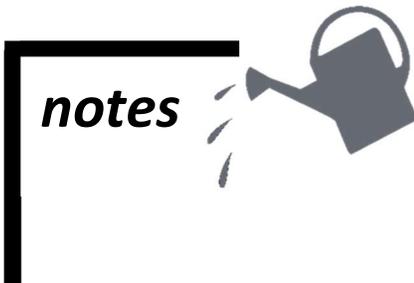


SESSION 2: Why reach out to the community?

✿ Gathering Tools

The purpose of Session 2 is to look at the Biblical call to reach out to our neighbors and to consider ways we've been impacted when others have reached out to us, so that we see how important it is to also reach out to those in our neighborhood, community, and beyond.



✿ Tend [group discussion/activities]

- Scriptures: Matthew 25:31-46, Micah 6:8, Romans 15:1-2
- Following Jesus is about letting our light shine, bringing out the God-colors in the world, but also about seeing the light shine in others. Once we have a relationship with Christ, we're to share it with others *so that* we can Cultivate Hope (right where we're planted). Questions to consider:
 - In what moments have others shared the love of Jesus with you (where have your "watermelon moments" been)?
 - When have you been able to shine the light of Christ in the darkness?
 - What can we learn from one another? What can we receive, not only give?

Harvest [wrapping it all up]

Prayer of Saint Francis

ALL: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

ONE: where there is hatred,

ALL: let me sow love;

ONE: where there is injury,

ALL: pardon;

ONE: where there is doubt,

ALL: faith;

ONE: where there is despair,

ALL: hope;

ONE: where there is darkness,

ALL: light;

ONE: where there is sadness,

ALL: joy.

**ALL: O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.**

ONE: For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

ALL: Amen.

Sowing seeds forward

This week, find a way to share a “watermelon moment” with someone else, even if it’s smiling at a cashier or waiter/waitress who seems to be having a rough day.