**Small Group Ministry**

**Group Session Plan**

**Conscience**

**Opening Words**

Arthur Miller, one of America's great playwrights, believed that the individual has an abiding moral responsibility for his or her own behavior, and for the behavior of society as a whole. After writing his play, The Crucible, Miller said, "The longer I worked the more certain I felt that as improbable as it might seem, there were moments when an individual conscience was all that could keep a world from falling."

**Check-in/Sharing**

**Topic/Activity**

Webster's defines conscience as "a knowledge or sense of right and wrong, with a compulsion to do right."

1. How do you experience your conscience?
2. How is your conscience swayed by the company you keep?
3. What is the importance of individual conscience to society as a whole?
4. Do you agree with Miller that there are moments when an individual conscience is all that can keep a world from falling?

**Likes and Wishes**

**Closing Words**

Arthur Miller died on February 10, 2005, at the age of 89. He was not only an outstanding playwright, but also a great public thinker. "Miller's greatest concerns," wrote Charles Isherwood in the February 10, 2005 issue of the *New York Times*, "were with the moral corruption brought on by bending one's ideals to society's dictates, buying into the values of a group when they conflict with the voice of personal conscience."

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