**Small Group Ministry**

**Group Session Plan**

**Retrospective**

**Opening Words**

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

A time to kill and a time to heal;

A time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to throw stones, and a time to gather up stones together;

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to seek, and a time to lose;

A time to keep, and a time to throw away;

A time to tear, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silent, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate;

A time for war, and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3, *Singing the Living Tradition* #558

**Check-in/Sharing**

**Topic/Activity**

Following the sudden death and a very moving memorial service of a member of the congregation, one of our Small Group Ministry groups centered their meeting around these questions:

1. How would you like to be remembered, what do you hope that people will recall about you?
2. How do you envision your own memorial service, i.e. what symbols do you want to have there?

**Likes and Wishes**

**Closing Words** “We Must Be Saved”

Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime; therefore we are saved by hope. Nothing true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history. Therefore we are saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone. Therefore we are saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous form the standpoint of our friend or foe as from our own. Therefore, we are saved by the final form of love which is forgiveness.

Reinhold Niebuhr, *Singing the Living Tradition* #461

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