

Mystic



✔ Prepare in Advance

- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.
- Provide a candle and matches.
- Retrieve, review, and have ready the music listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).

✔ Listening

Read the scripture for this session: Romans 14:1-12, then, view the *Bible Background Video*.

Listen to the song: "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off." (Note to leader: While this song's tone sounds light and happy, it deals with a serious relationship issue. Be prepared for people to have different reactions to this song – positive and negative. Receive all comments and encourage people to go deeper and think about why they are reacting the way they are. Link to song is on this session's webpage).

✔ Discussing

- What connections do you make between the text and the song?
- What is your reaction to this song's perspective? Positive or negative? Why?
- Christians often differ in their faith practices. Invite the group members to brainstorm examples of differing faith practices. (e.g. What we wear to church, worship styles, how we observe communion, baptism, prayer practices).
- What do you think is ESSENTIAL to the Christian faith and salvation?
- Why do you think we judge others who are different from us? (If people are comfortable enough to share why and when they personally judge others, encourage them to do so).

✔ Surprising

Listen to the following song twice: "Please Come." (Link to song is on this session's webpage)

During the first listening, just become familiar with the song.

During the second listening, invite the group to imagine all the different people in their lives they might find sitting at Jesus' banquet table . . . even those who might "surprise" them with their presence.

At the end of the song, invite the group to remain in silent prayer, talking with Jesus about the concerns, questions, intercessions that might have surfaced during the song.

✔ Praying

Close the time by passing around a candle. Have participants voice a sentence prayer for themselves or others. The prayer may be an expressed hope or a petition or a statement.

by Joy Yee

