

# Create



## ✓ Prepare in Advance

- Provide pens/pencils and paper for the writing option or keep an ongoing journal for participants to return to or take home each week.
- Provide and keep a collection of art supplies for each week including but not limited to: crayons, chalk, color pencils, markers, glue, tissue paper, colored construction paper, paint brushes, watercolors, finger paints, scissors, and a variety of scrapbooking paper and old magazines.
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

## ✓ Breath of God

Ask someone to read Psalm 78:1-8. Then, show the *Bible Background Video*.

Say: Psalms are like songs or poems. This Psalm particularly focuses of the retelling of this community's faith journey, the good and bad parts. Why is it important to pass on the stories of our faith and our faith journeys? Why is it important to tell the good and the bad, about our good choices and our bad choices?

Distribute copies of this page. Invite each participant to choose either the Writing or Visual approach and spend the next 20-25 minutes with that experience.

## ✓ Create- Writing

- Write a Psalm, lamenting a time in your life when you did not always make the best decisions, were unsure about your faith, or unsure about the presence of God in your life.
- Write a Psalm, thanking God for helping you through dark times. Then, thank God for being present with you in the good times as well.
- Write a Psalm, that gives a synopsis of your personal faith journey. Leave it open ended, as your journey has not come to an end.

## ✓ Create- Visual

- Using the art supplies provided, create:
- A piece of art that tells your faith journey or faith story using no words as all.
- A piece of art that retells our Psalm for today, Psalm 78:1-8. Use images, color, texture, etc. to capture the images from the Psalm.

## ✓ Share

Call the group together. Ask participants to share their creations and their meaning. You may even want to ask participants to share a “story of faith” from their own family. Maybe they tell about a faithful grandmother or another relative that did missionary work, worked with children at an after school program, provided a meal at Christmas in their home, etc. Ask participants if they would like to share about a family member that was a great example of what it meant to “live like Christ.” This is the oral passing of faith stories, important to our Christian community and life.

## ✓ Close

Offer a prayer thanking God for all those generations that came before us passing down their faith stories and faith journeys, so that we might know those stories and feel comforted in our time of need.

(After the session, consider finding a way to share the creations of the group- post pictures on Facebook, on a church website, or in a portfolio/frames kept either in a public place in the church or in your group's special gathering place).

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