



How can we foster enriching interfaith conversations?

An Encountering Other Faiths Webinar Series
Session 2: Commonly Asked Questions



Reflections on hospitality in a multi-faith context

Luke 10:38-42 (New Revised Standard Version) Jesus Visits Martha and Mary

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Reflections on hospitality in a multi-faith context



Reflections on hospitality in a multi-faith context



Shifting from the posture of host to guest



Learning more about yourself in the process



Questions & Comments?

Commonly Asked Questions

by facilitators of interfaith dialogue/initiatives

- Entry points for interfaith engagement?
- How to handle difficult topics?
(especially with challenging participants?)
- Other questions for consideration?

Commonly Asked Questions by facilitators of interfaith dialogue/initiatives

ENTRY POINTS for interfaith engagement...

- What are good entry points for people into this work?
- How can I respond to negative stereotypes that may make people resistant?
- How can I encourage people who may not be comfortable talking about religion or faith to enter the dialogue?

Commonly Asked Questions

by facilitators of interfaith dialogue/initiatives

SMALL GROUP SHARING...

- What are good entry points for people into this work?
- How can I respond to negative stereotypes that may make people resistant?
- How can I encourage people who may not be comfortable talking about religion or faith to enter the dialogue?

Commonly Asked Questions

by facilitators of interfaith dialogue/initiatives

FACILITATING CONVERSATIONS about sensitive topics...

- What ground rules need to be laid out before dialogue begins? How do I help make sure those guidelines are understood by all and implemented?
- Specifically, how do I welcome diverse perspectives, redirect a person who is dominating the conversation, encourage good open questions, and guide conversations that are both respectful and insightful?

Commonly Asked Questions

by facilitators of interfaith dialogue/initiatives

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS...

- How can I encourage a group that's been meeting for awhile to go a step deeper with their conversation?
- What are some ideas for moving beyond the “liberal” folks who typically show up and create a space for people with really divergent views?
- How can we start with collaboration on community issues and increase interfaith understanding in the process?
- What are some best practices and guidelines for offering healing and care in multi-faith settings?
- How can I stand up respectfully to others with biased/limited views of other faith traditions?



Closing & Next Steps

Thank you for your participation today!