

Youth activity 2: Scenes of transformation



(High School or Intergenerational)

Objectives: Groups will work cooperatively to explore situations of conflict or injustice, and envision possibilities for transformation.

Supplies: A printed copy of this handout and a Bible for each group.

Instructions: Divide individuals into teams of 4-6 people (possibly by birth month).

Invite each person to introduce her/himself to her/his group (if applicable), and then partake in the following group activity.

Activity: 1. Discuss: When was a time when someone was present with you or helped you when you really need it?

2. Choose a situation of conflict or injustice from the following list

- A statement from Matthew 25:35-36 (hungry, thirsty, naked, stranger, etc.)
- A drought causes food shortages.
- A war displaces people from their homes.
- Missionary efforts cannot meet the needs of the people in their context.
- A child cannot attend school because she must collect water for her family.
- A person becomes sick because of a lack of access to proper sanitation.
- A community does not encourage women in leadership.
- Chemicals contaminate a city's water source.
- A child is held in a detention center while awaiting an asylum hearing.
- A family loses their home in a natural disaster.

3. Discuss the situation: Where is the conflict or injustice?

What situations in your life does this situation make you think of?

4. Discuss: How could this situation be transformed into a situation of hope?

5. Create a still scene that expresses the conflict or injustice.

6. Create a transformed version of the original scene that expresses hope.

7. Find a Bible verse that accompanies the transformed scene of hope.

Have each group share with the whole group by naming the situation they chose then "staging" their still scenes (first the one conflict, then the hopeful transformation) and share the Bible verse they chose for the scene of transformation.

(Example: A group selects the situation, "a family loses their home in a natural disaster." In the first still scene, several group members huddle together, crying, around some overturned chairs. In the transformation, two other group members make a "tent" with their arms as a shelter over the family, and the family stops crying. The Bible verse that the group shares is the command from God in Isaiah 58:7 to "...give shelter to the homeless.")