

# COMMUNITIES OF LEARNING

## WOMEN - PRESENTATION NOTES FOR LEADER

**These notes correlate to the PowerPoint and will guide the leader through the presentation.**

### **Slide 1 - Title Slide**

### **Slide 2 - Introduction**

**Leader:** Read or paraphrase introduction.

### **Slide 3 - Prayer**

**Leader:** Invite participants to join in the prayer.

### **Slide 4 - Group Rule of Life**

**Leader:** Explain that there are three ways in which the learning community will commit to a rule of life during the sessions. In other words, the sacred context of each session is understood to include prayer and meditation, together and at home.

### **Slide 5 - Priorities for Women**

**Leader:** This session begins with a description of our topic. Read aloud or invite a reader.

### **Slide 6 - Opening Prayer - Youth session**

**Leader:** Leader: In this Ritual of Dedication, invite online participants to light a candle, take some deep breaths, and pray the opening prayer aloud, together.  
Let us pray...

### **Slide 7 - Opening Prayer - Adult session**

**Leader:** In this Ritual of Dedication, invite online participants to light a candle, take some deep breaths, and pray the opening prayer aloud, together.  
Let us pray...

### **Slide 8 - Introductions**


**Leader:** Invite each participant to share their name and a word for what is on their heart today.  
Zoom group - If the group is 10+ you might invite participants to write this in the chat instead.

### **Slide 9 - Scripture Reading**

**Leader:** Read the Scripture aloud.

### **Slide 10 - Guided Meditation**

**Leader:** I invite you, now, to check that you are in a comfortable position, loosening and softening your body, as needed.  
Zoom group - invite group to turn off cameras, if they wish



You may close your eyes or soften your gaze, whichever feels more comfortable for you...  
Beginning to settle yourself by noticing and putting aside any concerns, unfinished plans, or tensions from this day...as we take the turn inward, putting ourselves in the presence of God...

You may take a few long deep, cleansing breaths, tuning in to the movement of your breath collecting your attention...

Breathing in the breath of Spirit, breathing out compassion and care.  
Breathing in the breath of the Spirit, breathing out welcome and generosity.

When you notice thoughts or emotions arising, simply take note and then return your attention, very gently, to your breathing...

There is no need to push thoughts or feelings away. Instead, maintain a posture of welcome to your own interior movements.

Continue attending to the breath as you join, in the silence of your heart, in these prayers for the healing of the world:

May we be in loving service to all.

May we be tenacious in humility and deeper understanding.

May we promote the dignity of every human being.

May we understand ourselves to be part of the natural world.

May all children be encouraged to grow and flourish.

May all women be encouraged to grow and flourish.

May we reverence God in all of God's creation.

May all people find relief from struggle and pain.

May our compassion and hope radiate to all forms of life.

And may our faithful witness be for the healing of the world.

Continue breathing, imagining that with each exhale, you are widening your circle of concern, to include the whole world, from those closest to you to those furthest away.

When you are ready, set an intention for how you will participate in today's session...  
and slowly return your awareness to this community gathered.

### **Slide 11 - Learning Together**

This session we are exploring how the work of Episcopal Relief & Development empowers and promotes the rights of women that focus on four key areas.

### **Slide 12 - The Lesson**

**Leader:** Read aloud.

### **Slide 13 - Promoting Gender Equality**


**Leader:** Read or invite someone to read the description, here.

### **Slides 14-15 - Creating Economic Stability**

**Leader:** Read or invite someone to read the description, here.

### **Slides 16-17 - Cultivating Women Leaders**

**Leader:** Read or invite someone to read the description, here.



## **Slides 18-19 - Ending Violence Against Women**

**Leader:** Read or invite someone to read the description, here.

## **Slide 20 - Instructional Video**

**Leader:** Let's take a look at how these priorities play out on the ground and in community. Video is 3:42 min.

## **Slide 21 - Using Mutual Invitation for Sharing**

In order to ensure that everyone who wants to share has the opportunity to speak, we will proceed in the following way:

1. The leader or a designated person will share first.

After that person has spoken, he or she then invites another to share. After the next person has spoken, that person is given the privilege to invite another to share.

2. If you are not ready to share yet, say "I pass for now" and we will invite you to share later on. If you don't want to say anything at all, simply say "pass" and proceed to invite another to share. We will do this until everyone has been invited.

The Mutual Invitation process is used in order to insure that everyone who wants to share has the opportunity to speak when the catalyst gives the instruction to do so. As group members become more accustomed to using this tool, they make connections with everyone in the session, because they invite each speaker by name. When Mutual Invitation is used, it encourages deep and holy listening to one another, because there is no conversation until everyone has spoken once.

## **Slide 22 - Questions for Reflection - Youth**

**Leader:** Offer your response first and then select the next participant to share (i.e., mutual invitation.)

## **Slide 23 - Questions for Reflection - Adult**

**Leader:** Offer your response first and then select the next participant to share (i.e., mutual invitation.)

## **Slide 24 - Group Reflection/Brainstorm**

**Leader:** Invite the group to brainstorm ideas for ongoing learning and action (popcorn style.)

## **Slide 25 - Pray**

**Leader:** Remind group of their commitment to ongoing prayer (Rule of Life.)

## **Slide 26 - Closing Prayer**

**Leader:** Invite participants to pray together.

## **Slide 27 - At Home**

**Leader:** Encourage participants to discover additional online resources in their favorite learning modalities.

**Art:**

<https://bit.ly/3kYB5gj>

**Music:**

<https://bit.ly/3M3UQig>

**Ted Talk:**

<https://bit.ly/3srRGx7>

## **Slide 28 - ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE**

**Leader:** Thank you for your participation and support of this important work. This curriculum was developed as part of the ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE campaign.