

October 3, 2021— Where do we go from here? Daily Prayer Focus: Draw the Circle Wider

DAY 1: Acts 10

Cornelius, a pious Roman centurion, and Peter are brought together through visions they each receive. Peter and Cornelius meet face-to-face and Peter says: "I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another." Through their courageous conversation, their narrow perceptions of others expand, the Spirit descends upon them, and they share in community and hospitality.

- Read the text once
- For a second reading, take notice of what words stand out for you – why do you think they stand out?
- Read it a third time, slowly. How is God drawing your circle wider to encounter and engage others who are not like you and learn from them?

DAY 2: Questions to share

With family members or friends or neighbors, take the daily questions to share and seek out answers to learn more about who you and others have been created to be in this shared journey of life.

• What is something you deeply long for?

DAY 3: Questions to share

- Where are you finding joy right now?
- What energizes or excites you?

DAY 4: Questions to share

- Describe a dream you have for the future.
- What is a dream you have for your faith community?

• In what ways would you like to see your community grow or shift?

DAY 5: Questions to share

- What's something in your life, in the Church, or in the world that desperately needs to change?
- How do you want to be part of that change?

DAY 6: Reflect Poem: The Way Home, Rev. Sarah Are

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Do you think,
when they got to the end of the
Edmund Pettus bridge
they asked,
"Where do we go from here?"
Do you think,
when the church voted for all
people to preach and lead
that they asked,
"Where do we go from here?"
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Do you think,

when your parents had their first fight with you sleeping peacefully in the next room, that they asked in hushed voices, "Where do we go from here?"

Do you think that maybe people have been asking this question for as long as we've been asking questions? I don't know for sure, but I do know that I want to ask hard questions with you.

So here it goes—
"Where are you from?
Where does it hurt?
What do you need?
And where do we go from here?"
I pray,
I trust,
I believe—
if we keep asking,

we just might find our way home.