

# Respectful Communication Guidelines

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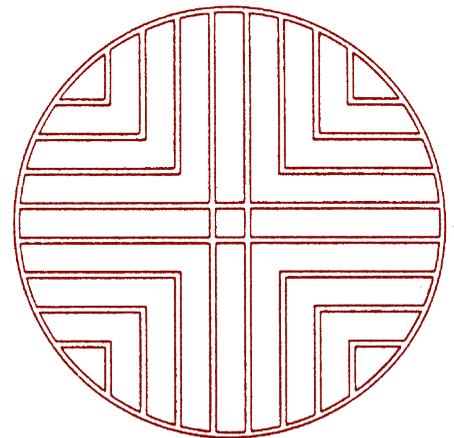
- R** = take **RESPONSIBILITY** for what you say and feel without blaming others
- E** = use **EMPATHETIC** listening
- S** = be **SENSITIVE** to differences in communication styles
- P** = **PONDER** what you hear and feel before you speak
- E** = **EXAMINE** your own assumptions and perceptions
- C** = keep **CONFIDENTIALITY**
- T** = **TRUST** ambiguity, because we are not here to debate who is right or wrong

## Mutual Invitation

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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.
2. He or she then invites another to share. Who you invite does not need to be the person next to you.
3. If you are not ready yet, say "pass for now" and then invite another to share. You will be invited again later.
4. If you don't want to say anything, simply say "pass" and proceed to invite another to share.
5. After each person has spoken, that person is given the privilege to invite another to share.
6. We will do this until everyone has been invited



# Kaleidoscope Bible Study Process

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**1** Read the Respectful Communication Guidelines and invite members of the group to affirm them for their time together.

**2** Inform participants that the Bible passage will be read 3 times. After each reading, participants will be invited to share their reflections.

## FIRST READING

**3** Invite participants to capture a word, a phrase or image when listening to the passage the first time.

**4** Invite someone to read the passage.

**5** Take a moment of silence to capture a word, a phrase or image that stood out from the passage for them.

**6** Using Mutual Invitation, invite **each person to briefly share his or her word, phrase or image.** (*This should take no more than 5 minutes.*)

## SECOND READING

**7** Invite participants to consider the second question appointed for this passage. (Facilitator should prepare ahead of time a question that is relevant to participants' context.)

**8** Invite someone to read the passage a second time.

**9** Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question.

**10** Using Mutual Invitation, invite each person to share his or her reflection.

## THIRD READING

**11** Invite participants to consider the following question while listening to the passage again.

***"What does God invite you to do, be or change through this passage?"***

**12** Invite someone to read the passage a third time.

**13** Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question.

**14** Using Mutual Invitation, invite each person to share his or her reflection.

**15** End the session with a prayer circle:

Invite participants to join hands in a circle. Invite each person to mentally complete the sentences:

***I thank God today . . .***

***I ask God today . . .***

The leader will begin by sharing his or her prayers. After he or she has shared, the leader then squeezes the hand of the person to the right. That will be the signal for the next person to share his or her prayers. If the person does not want to share, he or she can simply pass the pulse to the next person. When the pulse comes back to the leader, he or she can begin the Lord's Prayer and invite everyone to join in.

**For more information go to:**

[www.westohioumc.org/holycurrencies](http://www.westohioumc.org/holycurrencies) or [kscopeinstitute.org](http://kscopeinstitute.org)

