

supernatural

Digging in the Dirt of the Divine

Summer 2024 Group Discussion Guide

Facilitator prep: Read through, note some thoughts to grease the wheels. Prep supplies. Trust the 3 strands showing up!

Get Started

10-15 mins

Welcome! Fabric Groups are a regular, long haul space to **share** real life, give and receive **care**, build **trust** and **grow** together. We have two big things going for us that make that kind of space not only possible, but probable!

- **A shared conversation** about stuff that matters (Share the current theme and one stirring it has gotten you wondering about for you and your own life.)
- **A shared mode.** Reviewing **Group Agreements** each week helps us remember and practice some incredible habits of relating together. (Take your time, pass around to read. Or highlight one and why it matters to you.)

Check-In. Say hi, share names and a bit on where you've been this summer since you last connected (geographically or otherwise)

Discussion & Practice Ideas

30-60 mins

Could it be that the closer we look at ourselves, each other and the world the more we begin to recognize "God?" Could it be that the "supernatural" is actually so integral to what we are a part of that it is super... natural?

1. **Warm Up.** Given my check-ins on where I've been lately, I'd say "God" has been part of it:
- Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree
- ○ ○ ○ ○
- How are you imagining "God" in this response? These are our "God boxes." We all need them if we are gonna wrestle with this at all. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG HERE.
 - How does hearing about others' God-boxes* help you discover some of the limits and gifts of your own - for you?
 - Does being outside at Minnehaha Falls for this conversation feel somewhat or very different to you than Field? How?
2. **Compare Nugget Notes.** *Nugget:* a technical Fabric term for any idea, story or example that stuck with you from the week's message. Maybe it was comforting, or just won't leave you alone; perhaps it connected to a particular story of your own, a place you get stuck or feel strongly about. Maybe you found yourself telling someone else about it. *Talk about yours!*
3. **DIY R.O.A.M. (Read/Receive, Observe, Apply, Meditate).** Is there a poem, passage, story, lyrics, invention, music or art piece that has somehow expanded* your "God-box?" ROAM through it together! Having a pencils and paper can help everyone engage their own thoughts to add to the mix before sharing aloud. Try it!

*Interestingly, expanding your God box might make that mysterious "All That Is" feel paradoxically closer, more intimate or potent in your real experience. Have people experienced that? Have you had a small God box that created distance? Or such a big God-box that it was unrelatable? How can an expansive imagination about "God" also feel personally present or potent?



Close (continued next page)

10-15 mins

Share one thing you will take away from this time that you want to remember this week:

Check in on plans for upcoming gatherings. Summer can be a great time to change it up. Meet up for an outside walk and talk; have a picnic; find ways to be of service together or have a shared adventure.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

TIME:

WHAT:

WHO will coordinate, facilitate, provide hospitality or other stuff? *Remember, anyone is welcome to serve the group in these and other ways. In fact, it is a way you will grow and connect.*

Group Agreements

1. **Push pause.** The world is noisy. Before speaking, take a breath.... let Silence be a voice in your Group.
2. **Be present.** Your being here matters! Step up to share when you are ready. Step back to listen.
3. **Share what you want** when you want. "I'll pass" is always an option.
4. **Confidentiality.** Always ask before sharing anything outside the group, even if it is with the most supportive of intentions.
5. **Wonder over judgment.** Stay curious about yourself and others. Practice open and honest questions.
6. **Listening is a superpower.** Listening to others share their own experiences, struggle and strength is empowering. So is being listened to!
7. **Speak from your own experience,** to the whole group. Ask for help or feedback if you'd like, but avoid crosstalk, fixing, interpretation, or unsolicited advice.

These agreements are practiced, not perfected! You can always circle back with the group or an individual to share how something felt to you or check in. Practice when it's easy!

Sometimes there will be care and support needs that go beyond what can be addressed within your normal group operation. That's a good time to pull out the [Care IQ](#) tools.

