



Love Is The Way
by
Bishop Michael Curry
Holding on to Hope in Troubling
Times

OASIS Protocols for Breakout Rooms and General Discussion A review

Assign spokesperson/note taker at beginning of breakout session

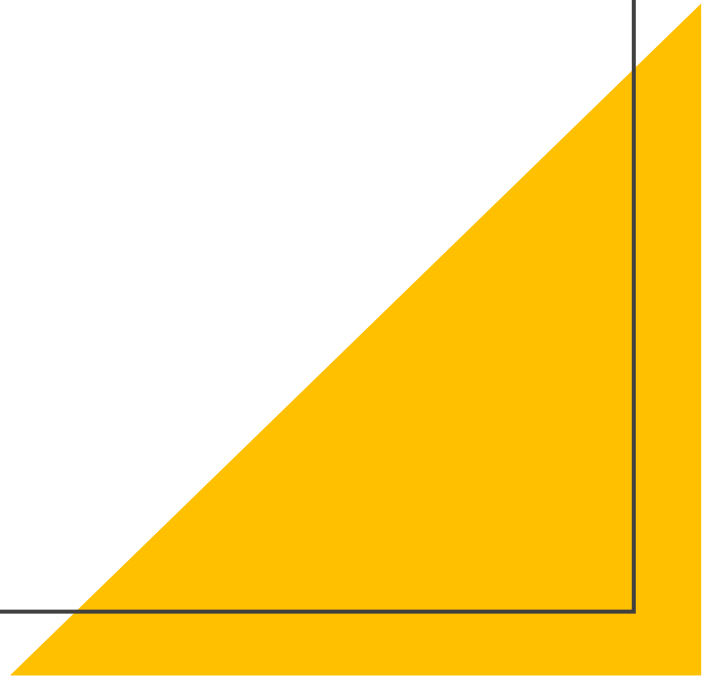
Ensure all participants have a chance to speak (if they want to speak)

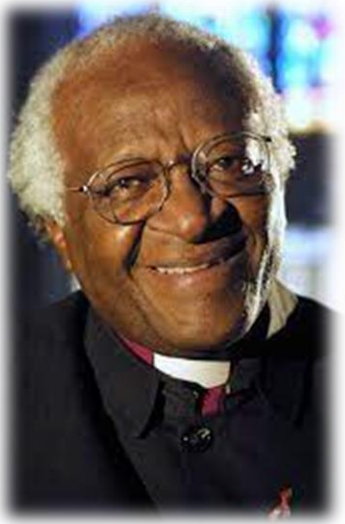
Be respectful in considering and giving feedback to new or different views

When possible, a team member may be present in each breakout room to provide support

**What
Desmond Tutu
and
Dolly Parton
have in
common**

Can love really change the world?





Dreamers



Dreaming is more than pie in the sky ideals

Dreamers dream of a better tomorrow and, in doing so, help create that better tomorrow

You don't have to change the entire world; it's OK to "start small"

There are many "midnights" in life; it takes dreamers to see the dawn while it's still dark

Breakout 1



For the more awake/caffeinated among us:

- Think about the 'midnights' in your life. How have dreamer(s) or dreaming helped you see the dawn on the other side of dark times?
- How do you connect dreaming to loving?

For those whose caffeine might not have kicked in yet:

- Do consider yourself a dreamer?
- Where in your life or in the life of others have you seen the impact of dreamer(s)/dreaming?

(i.e. You could think about moments that impacted you individually or maybe a smaller community, such as Bishop Curry's banding together with other children to confront a bully)

Romans

12: 20-21

²⁰ No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

NRSV

Ten Commandments of Non-Violence

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

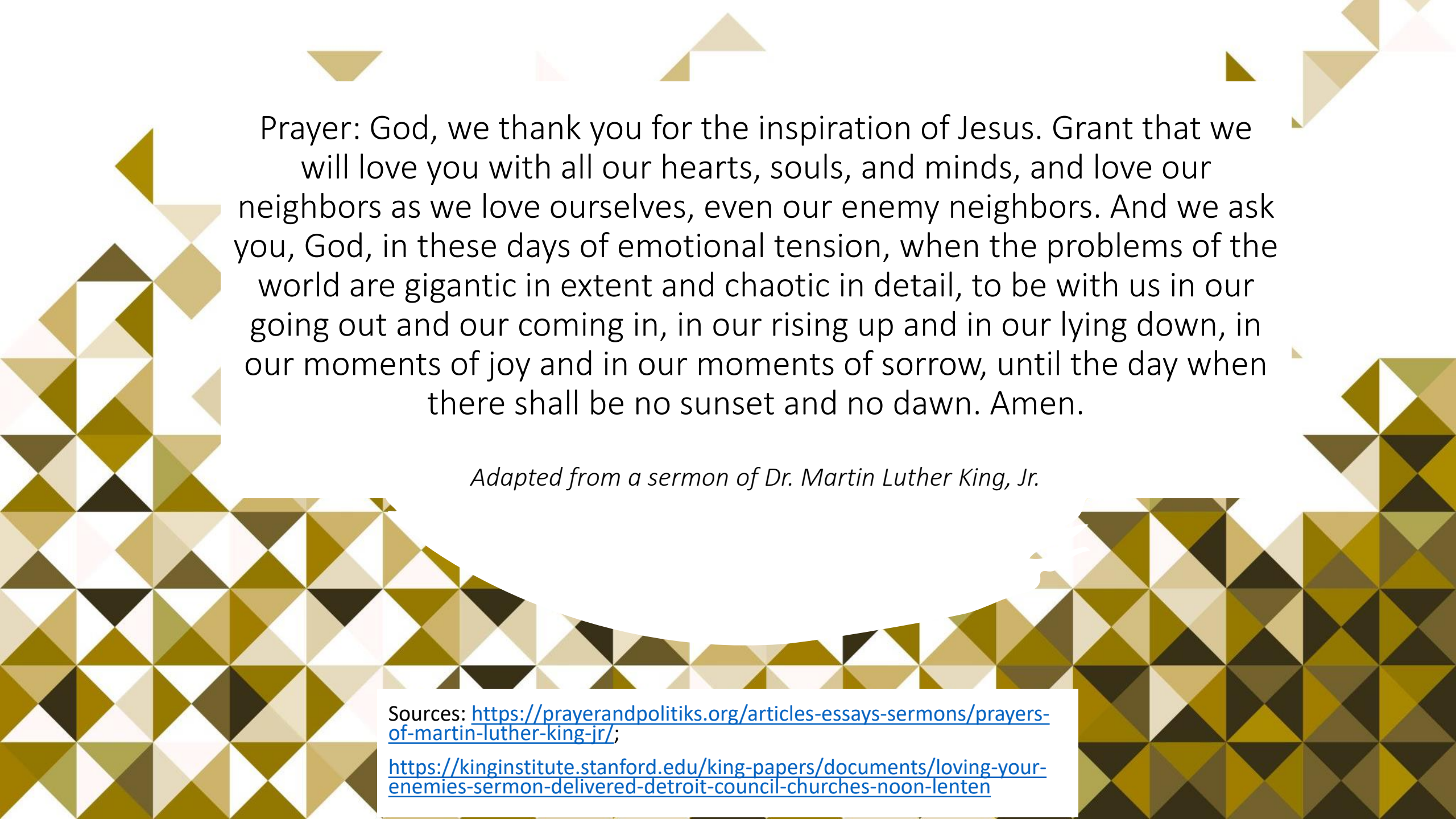
1. Meditate daily on the teachings and life of Jesus
2. Remember always that the non-violent movement seeks justice and reconciliation - not victory
3. Walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love
4. Pray daily to be used by God in order that all men might be free
5. Sacrifice personal wishes in order that all men might be free
6. Observe with both friend and foe the ordinary rules of courtesy
7. Seek to perform regular service for others and for the world
8. Refrain from the violence of fist, tongue, or heart
9. Strive to be in good spiritual and bodily health
10. Follow the directions of the movement and of the captain on a demonstration

Breakout 2

*Bishop Curry suggests we use the Ten Commandments of Non-Violence as a **potential framework for our own daily commitment to love***

In your breakout group, discuss any of the following...

1. Which of Dr. King's commandments do you feel the most capable of committing to?
2. Is there one that feels the most difficult?
3. Did any of them resonate with you more than others?
4. Did the inclusion of any surprise you?
5. Would you add or modify anything to this list today?
6. How have you witnessed the effectiveness of these in your life or in the life of someone you know?



Prayer: God, we thank you for the inspiration of Jesus. Grant that we will love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves, even our enemy neighbors. And we ask you, God, in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawn. Amen.

Adapted from a sermon of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sources: <https://prayerandpolitiks.org/articles-essays-sermons/prayers-of-martin-luther-king-jr/>;
<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/documents/loving-your-enemies-sermon-delivered-detroit-council-churches-noon-lenten>