

CONVERSATION WITH GOD

This process can be for someone who is experiencing: disappointment, guilt, anger, fear, shame, confusion, lack of trust in God, or for someone who is having a hard time trusting God with a loved one. Any of these can be “the block.” When someone is telling their story listen for any block or a person/situation that they are struggling entrusting to God. You will be bringing in a symbol to represent this block or person.

One way to determine if Conversation with God is appropriate is to ask: *“Is God a part of this for you?”* If yes, *“Would you like to bring this to God?”*

Materials:

- White cloth to put over the shoulders of person role playing God.
- You will mostly likely need a colored cloth to represent the “block.”

Run the process

- Have Attendee and “God” face one another.

IMPORTANT: **BEFORE the attendee begins talking to God:** *Discreetly instruct the role player “God” to try and remember as much as possible of what the attendee said and that we will be helping her. Tell “God” that she will be repeating this back in just a minute. The Staff person is writing down what the Attendee says to God.*

Have the Attendee tell God “the story.”

“Tell God what happened, how you feel. Whatever you need to say to God. Talk to God about _____ (the block or the person). What is the impact of holding onto _____? What is it costing you (your family, your life...)?” “Tell God what you need.”

If it is a “block” then ask: *“If it had a color what color would it be?”* Get the colored cloth and bundle it up and hand it to the attendee.

If it is a person/situation, as opposed to a feeling or state of being (fear, shame, guilt..) then have the attendee pick someone to represent this. This will eventually be surrendered to God.

SWITCH ROLES:

- Have Attendee and God SWITCH PLACES. Give both of them the following instructions.

(Instruct a staff member to take notes (discreetly) of what the Attendee is now saying as “God.”)

- *Say to the Attendee who is now God:*

“You are now standing in the place of God. Close your eyes and connect to the heart of God. (Pause for a moment and then have them open their eyes.) You have His Spirit within you. We are now going to give you an opportunity to listen to the heart of _____ (attendee’s name) who is going to share with you what’s on her heart. Listen from the heart of God who loves her.” (Remind the role player to remember what is said.)

- To the role player who **was God** and is **now the Attendee**: “ _____ (using the attendee’s name, not the role player’s name), **Would you tell God what is on your heart.**”

(Staff person who took notes is discreetly helping the Role Player to remember what was said.)

- Now, the Attendee (in the role of God) speaks in the place of God to herself (the role player) To the attendee (as God): *“You have heard _____’s heart. From the heart of God would you speak to her and respond to what she shared? God knows, you know, what she needs to hear.”*

Encourage the Attendee (as God) to speak to “herself.” Again, reminding her that she is filled with God and actually can connect to the heart of God and speak from His heart.

- Staff person writes down the words spoken from “God.”
- **SWITCH BACK INTO ORIGINAL PLACES.** The Attendee is now the Attendee again and the Role Player is now God again.
 - To the Attendee: *“Now, you get to hear from God. I encourage you to open your heart and spirit and listen to God’s voice. Take a moment connect to what you need from God.”*
 - Instruct “God” to speak from the heart what she heard the Attendee say “as God.” (Staff person helps with the lines.) You may need to coach “God” to be in her heart as she speaks.
 - As needed, continue to encourage the attendee to listen with an open heart and spirit.
- Check in with the Attendee *“What’s coming up for you?”*

(At this point, deal with the block/person, represented by the colored cloth.)

“Now, you still are holding onto _____. What would you like to do with it? _____ (Typically, they want to give it to God.)

Are you ready to give _____ to God?

Go ahead and have a conversation with God about this and then offer it to God, both verbally and physically.”

Attendee has opportunity to connect with God. Hug, held by God, whatever they want.

- Check in with Attendee *“How are you doing?”* Encourage her.
- Affirmations (See Stage Three) - Tell affirmations to others in the group
- De-Role, Sovereign Chair