

BROKEN AND BELOVED RITUAL

BROKEN RITUAL

- The Leader says, *"We are going to take these ashes and make the sign of the cross on our forehead as a symbol of embracing the truth about us – that God's image is broken within us. We are human and in need of Him. Once you put the ashes on your forehead you will say, 'I am Broken.' The women in the group will reply, 'Yes, you are.'"*
- Leader goes first. Take the ashes and make the sign of the cross on your forehead and say, *"I am Broken."*
- Have them reply, *"Yes, you are."*
- Leader holds the bowl for the woman to her left. The woman takes the ashes from it and marks her forehead with ashes and says, *"I am Broken."* All reply, *"Yes, you are."*
- Continue around the group until everyone has gone. Hold the bowl for each woman.
- When all women in the group have ashes on their foreheads, the leaders asks the women, *"What have you become aware of around your brokenness this weekend?"* [Allow for everyone to share a sentence or two. Keep the sharing going until the Speaker draws you back to the semi-circle.]

BELOVED RITUAL

Symbol - Pendant

- The Leader says, *"Sisters, this is a time where we affirm our belovedness before God and one another. I am going to give you a symbol of your belovedness in God."*
- She then says, *"When I say, 'You are Beloved,' you will reply, 'I am Beloved.'"*
- The Leader turns to the woman on her left and places a pendant over her head and says, *"_____ [her name], 'You are Beloved.'"*
- She responds, *"I am Beloved."*
- Leader says, *"_____, you are a beloved daughter of God. Stand in this truth. Walk in this truth."*
- When each woman has received her pendant, Leader asks if anyone would like to place her pendant on her.

Mirror

- Next the Leader takes out the mirror and says, *"In silence, we each in turn will take a moment to look at ourselves and soak in this reality - that we walk in this world simultaneously broken and beloved."*
- Group leader looks at herself in the mirror for several seconds and then passes the mirror to the woman on her left.
- When all have viewed themselves and the mirror has returned to you, ask the women, *"What have you become aware of around your belovedness this weekend?"*
- After each woman has responded, pray together as a group, sealing the truths of your brokenness and belovedness before God. Everyone prays, not just the group leader. Continue praying until the Beloved Speaker tells you to finish up praying.