

# Becoming Wise

summer patio series 2024 | kick off party

**Connect** with the members of your group. Share one word that captures how you are feeling coming to small group

**Open** your discussion with an invitation to a brave space. Have one person recite the poem below:

Together we will create brave space  
Because there is no such thing as a “safe space”  
We exist in the real world We all carry scars and we have all caused wounds.  
In this space  
We seek to turn down the volume of the outside world.  
We amplify voices that fight to be heard elsewhere,  
We call each other to more truth and love  
We have the right to start somewhere and continue to grow.  
We have the responsibility to examine what we think we know.  
We will not be perfect.  
It will not always be what we wish it to be  
But  
It will be our brave space together,  
And  
We will work on it side by side.

by Micky Scottbey Jones

**Discuss** the following questions (or simply dwell in one or two that feel right for your group)

Early in chapter two, Tippett reflects on the power of words. **What words would you use to describe the season of life you are in? Why those words?**

“Here’s what we crave. We crave truth tellers. We crave real truth.” (pg. 16) **Who is the biggest “truth teller” in your life? Are there any relationships or spaces in your life that you feel cannot handle ‘truthiness’?**

In chapter 2, Tippett describes her experience in Collegeville and the ability for those relationships to hold difference in opinion and diversity well. **What spaces or relationships have contained diversity or differences of opinion, and that very diversity/difference changed you?**

On pg. 40, Tippett shares a definition of religion that she likes: “The passion to live rightly on earth and to spread right living.” **How is this alike or dissimilar to your understanding or experience of religion? What is your personal definition of religion?**

In chapter 2, Tippett shares an interview with Vincent Harding and he discusses the power of stories from our elders. **What elders have most impacted you and in what ways? When was the last time you sat down with an elder?**

In chapter 2, Tippett shares an interview with Walter Brueggemann and he discusses the importance of lament. **What does lament look like for you? When/why was the last time you lamented? What are some practices of lament that have been powerful for you?**

**Close** your conversations with the following prompt:

"A word that sticks with me from our discussion tonight is: \_\_\_\_\_"

**Pray** for your group

*Bless our gatherings this summer, O Lord: May the space we create together be a place of celebration, conversation, and caring. May it be a space of bearing burdens and multiplying joys. May it be a place of challenge, counsel, comfort, and consideration, where our wisdom is deepened. May we savor this season as we live it together in the warmth of your love. Amen.*

**Pick** your next meeting location and time

Sunday Group	Wednesday Group	Thursday Group
June 9 (chapters 1 & 2) June 23 (chapter 3)	June 12 (chapters 1 & 2) June 26 (chapter 3)	June 13 (chapters 1 & 2) June 27 (chapter 3)
July 14 (chapter 4) July 28 (chapter 5)	July 10 (chapter 4) July 24 (chapter 5)	July 11 (chapter 4) July 25 (chapter 5)
August 11 (chapter 6)	August 14 (chapter 6)	August 8 (chapter 6)

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