



First SEED / LIFE Meeting Agenda

February 16, 2008

NOTE from Jodi Mott:

“We are having not one, but FOUR meetings in a row on the topic of “SEED”. This stands for **See** the world as God sees it, **E**ducate yourself on the issue at hand, **E**liminate personal biases around the topic, and **Do** something!! We, of course, are focusing on social justice with this series. It looks like it’s going to be a great series of meetings. The first one is below. We also used the following YouTube clip:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGr8as7pPBE> and the kids found the optical illusions on their own.”

Organized By: Deer (Brad, Dan, Nicole, Nina, Sonya)

Type: Social Justice (See of SEED)

Object: To introduce the concept of social justice, the SEED acronym, and the injustice retreat topic of Religious Intolerance. To explore how to see as God sees.

Transition song: Through Heaven’s Eyes, Prince of Egypt

Agenda:

What	Who Leads?	Time
1. Gathering, show	Brad	7:00
2. Opening Prayer, scripture (Scripture TBD), “Give Me Your Eyes”	Brad??	7:05-7:10
3. Introduction to Social Justice, SEED (poster), Religious intolerance	Sonya	7:10-7:30
4. 10x video (full group) • Discuss How God sees differently than us. (need discussion points)	Daniel	7:30-7:55
Transition w/ song		
5. Split into MLCs • Optical illusions (1 page per MLC)		7:55-8:20
Transition w/ song		
6. Full group discussion - how to get closer to seeing the way God sees. • Show each illusion	Nina	8:20-8:40
7. Song in Rose Chapel? Father’s Eyes Amy Grant, candles		8:40-8:45
8. Closing Prayer with mustard seed bookmarks	Nicole	8:45-8:55
9. Announcements	Jodi	8:55-9:00

Agenda Item 3

A. Intro to Social Justice

“Social justice means moving towards a society where all hungry are fed, all sick are cared for, the environment is treasured and we treat each other with love and compassion.”

Medea Benjamin
Co-founder Global Exchange

“It is not possible to do real social justice in the abstract – you must reach REAL people.”

Sara Miles
Author of “Take This Bread”

“By social justice I mean the creation of a society which treats human beings as embodiments of the sacred and supports them to reach their fullest human potential. “

Rabbi Michael Lerner
Co-founder of the Tikkun Community

Ask audience what they think social justice is... What would the world look like if we achieved social justice?

Everyone is valued/has dignity
Everyone has basic freedoms
Genuine equality
Show respect
Healthy communities

B. Intro to SEED

- a. Explain the acronym and it's origins
- b. Reference the poster/symbolism

C. Intro to Religious Intolerance

MLC Time – The God Sees

1. Review the optical illusion page. Can you see the illusion as described on the page? Help all members of your MLC see the illusion. Remember, you may need to change your perspective. Move the picture farther out, or in or do other things to see from a different perspective.

2. Read Scripture:

Samuel 16:7 "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart."

1. Answer the following questions:

A. Why is it hard to see as God sees?

B. What can we do to get closer to how God sees?

C. Have you ever had a time when your perspective on a situation was shifted? What helped you see it differently?

Transition back to full group when "Through Heaven's Eyes" from Prince of Egypt plays (approx. 8:20pm)

Agenda Item 6: - Full group discussion:

A. What helped you see the illusion? For example,

- Different perspectives
- Changing the way we look at it
- Concentrating on it for awhile
- Input from others

B. What/Who in your life has helped you see things from a different perspective?

C. What strategies can you use to help see the way God sees? (Point this out specifically if the link isn't made between the strategies for the optical illusions and how to see with God's eyes.)

Prep:

- Create the slide show (Sonya)
- Discussion points for #4 (Daniel)
- Scripture for opening (Brad)

Materials to bring:

- Poster
- Illusion MLC pages
- Projector
- Speakers