



SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

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## Journeys

The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same.  
Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination.  
- Don Williams, Jr.

We don't receive wisdom; we must discover it for ourselves after a journey  
that no one can take for us or spare us.  
- Marcel Proust

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### Opening and Chalice Lighting

The tree the tempest with a crash of wood  
Throws down in front of us is not to bar  
Our passage to our journey's end for good,  
But just to ask us who we think we are

Insisting always on our own way so.  
She likes to halt us in our runner tracks,  
And make us get down in a foot of snow  
Debating what to do without an axe.

And yet she knows obstruction is in vain:  
We will not be put off the final goal  
We have it hidden in us to attain,  
Not though we have to seize earth by the pole

And, tired of aimless circling in one place,  
Steer straight off after something into space.  
- Robert Frost, "On A Tree Fallen Across the Road"

### Introduction of New Member

### Review of Ground Rules

### Quiet Reflection

So when you are listening to somebody, completely, attentively, then you are listening not only to the words, but also to the feeling of what is being conveyed, to the whole of it, not part of it.  
- Jiddu Krishnamurti

### Sharing/ Check-In

Take two or three minutes to share how you are spiritually, psychologically, emotionally, and physically. You can speak or you can pass. We want to know how you are in this moment.

### Silent Break

### Journeys

Think of a journey you have taken, are currently taking, or would someday like to take. Your journey may be tangible or it may be ethereal. Here are a few questions for thought:

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- If your journey involves a physical destination, what is it about this location that is important to you? Is it the geography, climate, a historical event, an event of strong personal meaning to you?
  - What do you hope to gain (or lose) by taking your journey?
  - What tools (physical, mental, spiritual) do you need for your journey to be a success?
  - What inspired you to take this journey?

**Sharing/Deep  
Listening**

*Speak about this topic in any way that is comfortable to you. If you choose to use the questions above, focus on just one or two, as this will allow you to go deeper into the topic.*

**Discussion**

*This is a time to supportively respond to something another person said or to relate additional thoughts that may have occurred as others shared.*

**Checkout/  
Likes & Wishes**

What did you like about this meeting?  
What would you like to see change at future meetings?

**Closing Reading/  
Extinguish Chalice**

I was a highwayman. Along the coach roads I did ride  
With sword and pistol by my side  
Many a young maid lost her baubles to my trade  
Many a soldier shed his lifeblood on my blade  
The bastards hung me in the spring of twenty-five  
But I am still alive.

I was a sailor. I was born upon the tide  
And with the sea I did abide.  
I sailed a schooner round the Horn to Mexico  
I went aloft and furled the mainsail in a blow  
And when the yards broke off they said that I got killed  
But I am living still.

I was a dam builder across the river deep and wide  
Where steel and water did collide  
A place called Boulder on the wild Colorado  
I slipped and fell into the wet concrete below  
They buried me in that great tomb that knows no sound  
But I am still around..I'll always be around..and around and around and  
around and around

I fly a starship across the Universe divide  
And when I reach the other side  
I'll find a place to rest my spirit if I can  
Perhaps I may become a highwayman again  
Or I may simply be a single drop of rain  
But I will remain  
And I'll be back again, and again and again and again and again.  
- Johnny Cash, "Highwayman"