

# **The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations**

## **Civil Discourse Five Week Curriculum**



**OFFICE OF  
GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS**

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## WEEK 3: VALUES-BASED CONVERSATIONS PARTICIPANT HANDOUT

### Opening Prayer:

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen. (Prayer for Peace, BCP p. 815)

### Defining our Values

Abundance	Connection	Friendship	Legacy	Recognition	Strength
Accessibility	Contentment	Fun	Leisure	Reliability	Success
Accountability	Contribution	Generosity	Love	Resilience	Support
Accuracy	Cooperation	Giving	Loyalty	Resourcefulness	Teamwork
Achievement	Courage	Grace	Making a difference	Respect	Thankfulness
Adaptability	Creativity	Gratitude	Meekness	Responsibility	Thoroughness
Adventure	Curiosity	Growth	Mindfulness	Rest	Thoughtfulness
Altruism	Dependability	Happiness	Nature	Restraint	Thrift
Ambition	Dignity	Harmony	Nonconformity	Reverence	Time
Appreciation	Discipleship	Health	Openness	Risk-taking	Tolerance
Authenticity	Discipline	Holiness	Optimism	Sacredness	Tradition
Awareness	Diversity	Home	Order	Sacrifice	Travel
Balance	Duty	Honesty	Passion	Safety	Trust
Beauty	Efficiency	Hope	Patience	Security	Truth
Being the best	Empathy	Humility	Patriotism	Self-discipline	Understanding
Belonging	Environment	Humor	Peace	Self-expression	Uniqueness
Belonging	Equality	Inclusion	Perfection	Self-respect	Unity
Boldness	Ethics	Independence	Perseverance	Serenity	Usefulness
Bravery	Excellence	Initiative	Personal fulfillment	Service	Variety
Capability	Experience	Integrity	Philanthropy	Silence	Vision
Caring	Expertise	Intellect	Piety	Simplicity	Vitality
Challenge	Fairness	Introspection	Playfulness	Simplicity	Vulnerability
Collaboration	Faith	Intuition	Power	Spirituality	Warm-heartedness
Commitment	Family	Joy	Practicality	Spirituality	Wealth
Community	Financial stability	Justice	Pride	Spontaneity	Well-being
Compassion	Firmness	Kindness	Professionalism	Sportsmanship	Wisdom
Competence	Flexibility	Knowledge	Reason	Stewardship	Wonder
Confidence	Forgiveness	Leadership		Stillness	Youthfulness
Conformity	Freedom	Learning		Strategic	Other:



## **Reflection:**

*Invite the participants to take a couple of minutes to look over their Values list and make notes to themselves.*

- Where did you find that you marked similar things?
- Where do you not see crossover?
- What values do you think Jesus teaches us?

## **Civil Discourse and Faith (30 minutes)**

*Invite participants to break into small groups and read the Baptismal Covenant at their table. Keeping in mind the characteristics of civil discourse, ask participants to spend 15 minutes in small groups responding to the Baptismal Covenant and identifying shared values embedded in the Covenant.*

*Invite groups to share their responses.*

*Facilitate a discussion based on the responses. Possible questions include:*

- Has this exercise caused you to consider the promises in the Baptismal Covenant in a new way?
- How has it made you consider how our values bind us together?
- We respond with “I will, with God’s help.” How can you individually or as a community call on “God’s help” to create a civil society? Share specific ideas.

## **Closing Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, who traveled with the disciples on the road to Emmaus:

Be with us on the way,

that we may know you in the scriptures,

in the breaking of bread,

and in the hearts of all whom we meet. Amen.

[\(Saint Augustine's Prayer Book, Forward Movement\)](#)