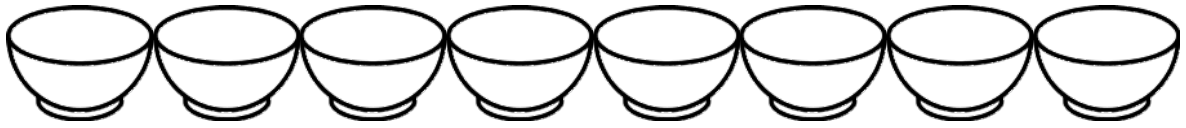


**Gather Handout One**

**GATHER-CALL TO COMMUNITY**

- Guide: Let Us Say Aloud Responsive Litany of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
- Guide: There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
- Participants: A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- Guide: A time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
- Participants: A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- Guide: A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- Participants: A time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw  
Away,
- Guide: A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- Participants: A time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.
- Guide: What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race.
- All: God has made everything beautiful in its time.
- Guide: Let Us Pray



## **Engage Handout One**

Instructions: One spoon is used for each bowl. Guide(s) may read the description of each element or choose participants to read each element. Depending upon the size of the group, there can also be groups of readers for each bowl of life.

- 1. Cider Vinegar - Appreciation for Tradition and Family:** To learn strength in racial/ethnic pride, commitment to household and extended family, reverence, value and appreciation for the foundation for life chances which those who came before having laid.
- 2. Honey - Joy in Relationships:** To learn to appreciate the sweetness and goodness of life experienced through positive interpersonal relationships.
- 3. Lime - How to Overcome Bitterness:** To develop a sense of expectation that betrayal by human beings will occur in life (healthy paranoia) and to learn to retain dignity, composure and self-worth even when feeling hurt by the words, actions or inaction of other people.
- 4. Salt Wisdom and Balance in Making Life Choices:** To learn flexibility, creativity and moral balance in making choices and decisions.
- 5. Red Pepper (chili) - Resilience in Critical Situations:** To learn to expect the unpredictable circumstances in the form of crisis situations and tragedy and to develop the ability to be resilient in the face of crisis.
- 6. Water - Willingness to be Renewed and Changed:** To learn spiritual depth, and to know “where your help comes from,” and how to go about receiving spiritual renewal.
- 7. Oil - Reliance on Community Power:** To learn to move towards inevitable death with confidence and grace. This is a confidence born out of the learned appreciation of the power of a cohesive family and community where each person is valued for their contribution. To be able to reflect this confidence and grace as wisdom and encouragement to the youth as an example of true power.
- 8. Coconut - Assurance of Inevitable Blessings:** To learn reliance on One greater than one’s self and with age and wisdom to recognize your blessings and good luck as life benefits which have nothing to do with your own intelligence, skill, or power, but is solely due to the unpredictable goodness of the God



## Engage Handout Two

**Note: After the ceremony is complete by everyone tasting the elements and hearing the explanation, each participant writes a phrase to complete the following phrase below, choosing a bowl element to identify**

### **Plan to Share Your Response:**

**I know the season of “salt,” “red pepper,” “honey,” etc., because...**

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## **JUSTPEACE**

**Use the small business card to write down a condition or group of people who continually taste from the same bowl.**

### **Discussion Questions:**

How can people struggling against inequities and injustices see a beautiful day?

How can we as a community of faith despite the season of challenges see a beautiful day

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## **SEND FORTH**

**When you face *stormy seas*, I will be there with you *with endurance and calm*;  
you will not be engulfed in *raging rivers*.  
If it seems like you're walking through fire with flames  
*licking at your limbs*,  
*keep going*; you won't be burned.**

Isaiah 43.2 (voice translation)