

**Small Group Ministry
Group Session Plan
After A Vote**

Opening Words

Any opportunity to vote invites us to be aware of several of the Principles of Unitarian Universalism. Those Principles state that we affirm:

The inherent worth and dignity of the individual

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process in our affairs within our congregations and in the wider society.

Each of these principles comes into play as we participate in any democratic process.

Check-In/Sharing

Topic/Activity

Think of a time when you were involved in a matter that led to a vote.

1. What did you think of and how did you interact with your supporters? Your opponents?
2. What changed in your feelings after the vote?
3. What do these Principles expect of us as winners of a vote? Losers?

Closing Words

Grant us understanding, when the positions of others make our lives difficult.

Grant us compassion, when our need for compassion and understanding is so great.

Grant us the increased strength of conviction, when we could so readily lose heart.

Grant us courage as we work to include sacred values of justice and love into human institutions.

Bless our speaking and our actions. May they be with conviction but not rancor, so that the conversation continues and expands.

Bless our commitment to continuing on, realizing that love and justice in human institutions come slowly rather than quickly.

Bless our hope in the future, faith in our stand, and love that endures beyond the immediate and into infinity.

Blessed be for the strength and commitment of so many people working toward just and compassion in human relations.

From Prayer at Service after Same Sex Marriage Referendum, Unitarian
Universalist Community Church, Augusta, November 2009, Rev. Helen
Zidowecki