

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website  
SMALL GROUP SESSION  
**ASK ME WHAT I'M LIVING FOR**  
By the Rev. Glenn H. Turner

OPENING WORDS & CHALICE LIGHTING:

If I had known this most amazing you  
was like the me I try to understand!

How could I know the living things  
which through the years were met in you?

We only stood near one another  
and spoke of weather,  
games and local politics.

We did not trust each other well enough  
to speak of self -  
or did we doubt it mattered?

I wonder if we could have talked  
of what you care for,  
cling to with a fierce tenacity,

Of how you hurt inside,  
sensing it hard to love, but wanting to:  
living in ways which never worked too well  
but ways you learned too well to leave too soon.

I wonder if I would have touched  
the toughness in you leaning up against the world.

At least I would have found in you  
the mystery I am.

Jacob Trapp

CHECK IN: (40 - 50 minutes)

What you share may be about your physical or spiritual health, cares or concerns for loved ones, issues you are facing.

Each person in the group speaks uninterrupted, if time remaining, general response and conversation is welcome. Confidentiality.

FOCUS: Ask Me What I'm Living For.

If you want to identify me ask me not where I live, or what I like to eat, or how I comb my hair, but ask me what I am living for, in detail, and ask me what I think is keeping me from living fully for the things I want to live for. Between those two answers you can determine the identity of any person.

from "The Man in the Sycamore Tree" - Thomas Merton

Discussion

Reflect on the quote.

## LIKES AND WISHES

How did this session go for you? Is there anything you'd like to call particular attention to?

## CLOSING WORDS: "Revelation" by Robert Frost

We make ourselves a place apart  
Behind light words that tease and flout,  
But oh, the agitated heart  
Till someone really find us out.

"Tis pity if the case require  
(or so we say) that in the end  
We speak the literal to inspire  
The understanding of a friend.

But so with all, from babes that play  
At hide-and-seek to God afar,  
So all who hide too well away  
Must speak and tell us where they are.