**YEAR OF FAITH SERIES: Living a Faith-filled Life**

**Session 1: Finding God**

**OPENING PRAYER:**  You may wish to provide your own prayer for the group or use what we have enclosed.

**OUTLINE:**

1. **Introduction –**
	1. By facilitator – The Series
	2. By Diane Hanley – Session itself: *Finding God*

1. **Question** – “*Where have you found God in your life?” (10 – 15 min.)*
2. **Break into small groups to discuss, pause video.**
3. **Diane introduces Small Group** from Immaculate Conception, Denham Springs
4. **Immaculate Conception discusses question.**
5. **Introduction of presenter – Rob Tasman –** by Diane
6. **Presentation by Rob**
7. **Follow up and directions to move into small groups-, pause video.** Diane
8. **Question – “***What struck you from the presentation that might be helpful in deepening your life of faith?” (10 – 15 min)*
9. **Discussion –** by Immaculate Conception group.
10. **Closing** – by Diane Hanley
11. **Prayer –** You may choose to lead your own prayer or close with we what have to offer.

**OPENING OF SESSION PRAYER:**

*Opening Prayer:*

Our God is a God of mystery, but also a God of love. We praise you and believe in your presence among us. We believe, too, in your love for us, which has been revealed through your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 139: 1-12

*Invite people to share those intentions for which they would like to pray. You might include one or two of these if you choose to do so.*

**With confidence in God’s care, we place our needs and intention before God’s love and mercy. Let us respond: Lord, hear our prayer.**

* May we see God in the faces of those we encounter in our daily lives, for this we pray….
* May we, during this Year of Faith, seek to live a life that allows others to know God through us, for this we pray.
* I invite you to share your prayers of intention at this time…

CLOSING PRAYER:

God our God, you are gracious and generous beyond our imaginings. Guide us and strengthen us, and above all calm our fears. Open our hearts and minds and strengthen our faith that we might experience your presence. Watch over us and bless us always. We pray these things in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**CLOSING OF SESSION PRAYER:**

Closing Prayer:

 ***Silent God***

This is my prayer –

 That, though I may not see,

 I be aware

 of the Silent God

 who stands by me.

 That, though I may not feel,

 I be aware

 that God – my Silent, Mighty God,

 waits each day.

 Quietly, hopefully, persistently,

 waits each day and through each night

 for me,

 for me, alone.

 Edwina Gately, VMM

 Psalms of a Laywoman, Silence, Source Books, California, 1988