**Small Group Ministry**

**Group Session Plan**

**Life Purposes and Events**

**Opening Words** "The Cry of the Realist"

Vanity of vanity, says the Teacher, all is vanity.

What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun?

A generation goes arid a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.

The sun still rises, and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises.

The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.

All rivers run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the rivers flow, there they continue to flow.

All things are wearisome; more than one can express.

What has been will be, and what has been done is what will be done. There is nothing new under the sun.

From Ecclesiastes 1:1-11, adapted from *Singing the Living Tradition* #667

**Checking in/Sharing**

Topic/Activity

1. Why am I here?
2. Is it simply to learn some lesson, or to work on a particular social problem or need?

Or is there no specific purpose?

1. Is life set by a plan, by genetics, by environment? Or do things happen by chance?
2. How much and what kind of choices do I have?
3. What difference does my response to these questions make in my life day today?

**Likes and Wishes**

**Closing Words**

We are both burdened and blessed by the great responsibility of free will -- the power of choice.

Our future is determined, in large part, by the choices we make now.

We cannot always control our circumstances,

But we can and do choose our response to whatever arises.

Reclaiming the power of choice, we find the courage to live fully in the world.

*The Laws of Spirit*" by Dan Millman

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