



Candletime Online

Opening Game Would You Rather?

This is a game of discussion starters. Start Easy. You can aloud or in the chat. Would you rather have chocolate ice cream or vanilla ice cream? French Fries or Tater Tots? Swim or Snowboard? Run or Lift Weights? Talk or Listen? Fluent in many languages or never leave the US? Travel by car or plane? Step in dog poop or have a bird poop on your head? Have all your fingers broken or one leg broken? Which ever answer you like best, then choose a person to answer why and then they can make up the next "would you rather"

Continue Opening Game in the breakout groups with tougher questions. And you don't have to use the chat. Work on a project alone or with a team? Fail a test or Cheat? Take a video of someone bullying or intervening in the bullying incident?

Share your name and a difficult decision you have had to make

Watch <https://youtu.be/JegGjYtstyw>

Ask When making a choice, what is your compass? What tools do you use to make your decisions?

Read Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV)

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.^[a] "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he

put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii,^[b] gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Ask What does this thousand year old story have to do with us?

Have you heard the story of Ahmed Arbery? A young man who killed in Georgia in February? There are many unanswered questions around the story. What we know, Ahmed was caught on a video walking around a house construction site. There had been reports of stealing in the neighborhood. A father and son saw Ahmed running in the neighborhood and thinking he was the thief, chased him and killed him. We would have never known what happened except a video has come out. A man in a car with his phone recorded it all.

Ask Either in the Good Samaritan story or in the Ahmed Arbery story, what decision would you have made when seeing the situation unfold? Have you ever been involved in a situation where someone took a risk and helped you, or you helped made the decision to intervene and help someone else?

Share The civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. famously said:

"On the parable of the Good Samaritan: "I imagine that the first question the priest and Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But by the very nature of his concern, the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'"

Across the US in our schools and communities there are and will be similar situations where we will have the opportunity to help our neighbors. Having the intent to help is good but acting on that intent is much better. In the Good Samaritan story, the man's life was ultimately saved.

Light a candle or candles as a symbol that Christ's light shines around you and hears your prayers.

Take a moment to **pause** in silence. Feel God's presence with you.

Ask What prayers do you have for God? Who or What is on your heart to pray for?

Pray Ask everyone to share one petition.

Bless one another by marking the sign on the cross on your hand and raising it towards your camera.

