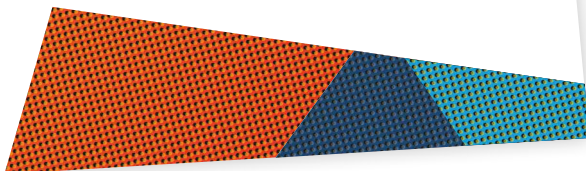


5 Risking Hope

Bible passage

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

(John 13:1-17)



Before

Reflect

The kingdom of God is transformative because it is bringing something brand new that is often counter-cultural. It is a message of genuine hope because it turns broken systems of power the right way up – but this doesn't always feel comfortable and sometimes meets resistance.

We know that there are times when following Jesus' example in our relationships still feels like an uphill struggle. There are situations when it is hard to be curious, when our presence doesn't seem to make a difference and when we feel we've done all the reimagining we can do. Living out God's call in our encounters is a task we invest in over time that leads us through costly, sometimes risky, territory.

But what we see in Jesus is not only that he has walked this rocky path before us but that, through it, he is bringing in new life. When Jesus washes his disciples' feet, he takes the risk that his actions and attitude won't be understood, welcomed or appreciated, at least in the short term. Yet nevertheless, he chooses to do something normal and everyday to achieve the extraordinary. He embodies hope – through his actions and presence, he becomes a sign of God's kingdom where power is not grasped and where relationship is sacrificial.

As we prepare for what's next, we need to know that we are called to be part of God's bigger story of restoration in the world – even when we can't see the impact. And we need to be resourced by the Holy Spirit and one another as we keep going.

Heads Up

Think of a situation or relationship where you are hoping for change but feeling stuck. There will be an opportunity to explore this further in the session.

During

Story



Guvna B's and Tom's stories

What does this story say to you about the risk and hope involved in restoration?

 Write your notes in these spaces...



Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

(John 13:1-17)

What do you learn about Jesus in this story?

In the film and the Bible passage, how do the three habits help people risk hope?

Space

Hopes and Habits

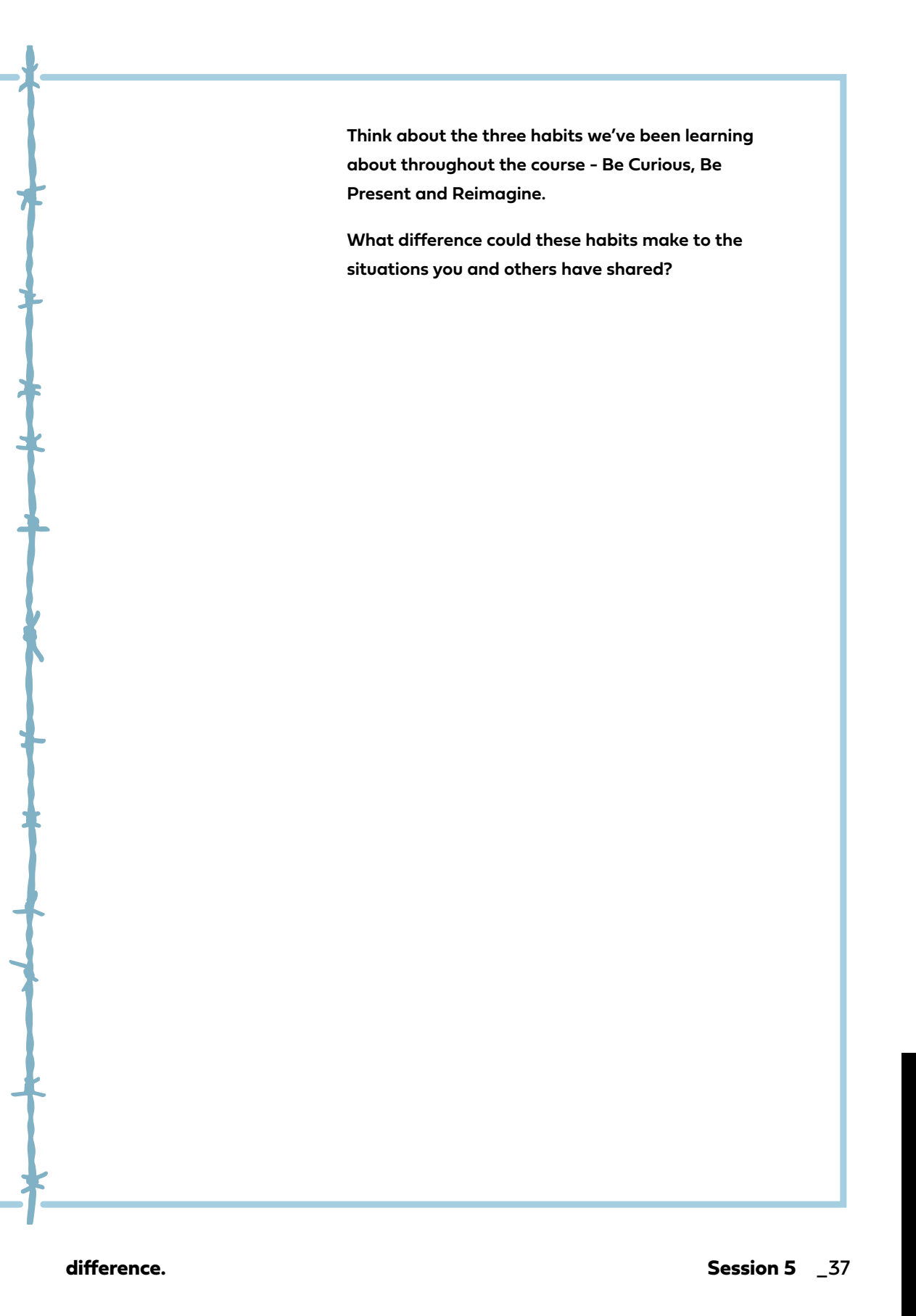
Think about a change you are longing to see in...

- your life

- your wider community

- society

Where do you feel resistance
or opposition to these hopes?



Think about the three habits we've been learning about throughout the course - Be Curious, Be Present and Reimagine.

What difference could these habits make to the situations you and others have shared?

Sanctuary



As we come to the end of the course, we know that the risk and cost of following Jesus in our relationships is real. But we are part of an even bigger reality in which God is making all things new.

After →

Top Takeaway


Write or draw one thing you want to take away from this session.

Act

Doing relationships God's way will sometimes be risky and resisted but the hope it brings is radical and transformative.


Be Curious_

How could I be a better listener?

 **Try** being curious about how God could use you to bring hope to the situation you're in.
What is the first step you could take?


Be Present_

Where am I showing up and sticking around?
Who could I have better encounters with?

 **Try** thinking about someone who has kept you going in difficult situations. How can you show gratitude for that person?

Reimagine_

Where am I in need of hope?
How could I act on the hopes I already have?

 **Try** reimagining the ways in which your Top Takeaways from this course could have a wider impact – in your wider community and across God's world.

End

difference.