

- \* Problems keep getting bigger, they're never solved. We solve one and it only creates more.
- \* I never learn why something happened.
- \* There's more violence now and it's affecting people I love.
- \* Who can I believe? Who will tell me what's really going on?
- \* I worry about my children. What will the world be like for them?

Margaret J. Wheatley – *Turning To One Another* 

## Will we ever all agree?

Get my job back. No price increase.

Survive COVID. No masks. Open restaurants.

Racial justice. Stop the protesting.

Save the planet. Stop restricting electricity.

Elect my guy. Elect my guy.

## if you don't agree with me...

I won't get my need met.

You'll get away with doing wrong.

You'll hurt me or someone I care about.

It makes me wrong & I won't be accepted.

I'll lose control.

We can't both be right!

Could our minds and hearts be big enough just to hang out in that space where we're not entirely certain about who's right and who's wrong? Could we see, hear, feel other people as they really are?

Pema Chodron

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matt. 25.40

Do to others what you want them to do to you.

Matt. 7.12

I know with all my heart, the only way the world will change is if many more of us step forward, let go of our judgments, become curious about each other, and take the risk to begin a conversation.

Margaret J. Wheatley – Turning To One Another

If you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.

Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

Give, and it will be given to you.

Luke 6.33-38

## **SAMPLE CONVERSATION...**

- "Would you like to share why you're voting for (opposite party)?"
- "Why is that important to you?"
- Ask how those values affect them personally.
- "What makes you proud about (your party)?"
- If they start criticizing your party...ask again about what they value in their party.

## **GOALS IN CONVERSATION...**

- Not to change their mind.
- Open your mind to other views/needs.
- Listen for similar needs.
- Talk about ways you both agree.
- Thank them for sharing.
- Self reflection...
  - What did they say that I appreciate?
  - How has their view connected me to my own... or challenged my own?

Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the log in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the splinter out of your eye,' when all the time there is a log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Matt. 7.3-5

The more my heart opens to the Christ within, the more my heart will open to others and the less I'll need to make others think like me.



We will never all agree. But we can still be curious and kind.