

Tuesdays Table

How do we experience God in a complex world?

The purpose of this resource is to help guide your engagement of the “Tuesdays at the Table” conversation. This is merely a frame for the conversation you’ll have or the raw materials to shape a conversation unique for the table you’re sitting at.

As you participate in the conversation...

- Keep an open mind.
- Stay curious.
- Look for new ideas.
- Speak from your heart.
- Respect the ideas of others.

Access a video of the “How do we experience God in a complex world?” conversation [here](#).

For last year’s words belong to last year’s language, and next year’s words await another voice.

T. S. Eliot, *Four Quartets*

Let us pray.

The unfolding of your words gives light and imparts understanding to the simple. Brighten our conversations that your presence may be seen and soften our understanding that our mind may be your mind. Amen.

Guiding questions.

- How do you interpret “Experience is a source and criterion of theology for United Methodists”?
- How have your experiences influenced your understanding of Scripture?
- How have your experiences influenced your understanding of God?
- How can interpreting the Bible be difficult if you remove context?
- How do you understand your experience of God to be an individual experience or a collective experience?
- How do you make sense of experiences that challenge our current understanding of God?
- How do you make sense of individual experiences that are vastly different than your own?
- What are some benefits to being in theological conversations with people who are different than you are?

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Take action.

- When you are in the midst of an experience that challenges your current understanding of God, pause and ask yourself, “Where can God be found in this experience?” Journal about where you God and, if you’re comfortable doing so, talk about your observations with a group of friends.

Resources.

“Our Theological Task: Experience”, Book of Discipline 2016 (§ 105, p. 86)