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Dear CircleTalk™ Colleague,

When we train new leaders at CircleTalk™, we teach that we are not therapists. We are not counselors. This is not a support group. In Circles, our leaders' job is to know more from all; what is going on "inside" and how does that get expressed "outside"? Why is this important?

Having the chance to recount moments, people, and events in life is a chance to integrate what might seem like random events, into story. Stories connect over the weeks. With good questions, we explore and, inevitably, paint the picture of who we are right now. A leader connects the past with the present, the roads we've traveled, lessons learned and beliefs that guided us. Our shifting perspectives are not only interesting to explore with others, but an essential reckoning of who we have been and a statement about who we are today.

How grounding is that? To have a place to talk about the ever-changing story that is our life.

Take a look at a Main Theme discussion starter from the CircleTalk™ Curriculum, below. All I can say back to Confucius is I have a story for every age that says something more about who I am. Oh yes, thanks for this proposition to reflect and ponder.





What does Confucius say at the Age of Seventy?

At fifteen, I was committed to learning.

At thirty, I took my rightful position.

At forty, I was no longer totally perplexed.

At fifty, I began to understand the unfolding of my true nature.

At sixty, I was in harmony with contradictions and ambivalence.

*At seventy, at long last, I may follow my heart's desire
without going astray.*

Here are some things to talk about around the dinner table:

- Can we remember what was important to us at different ages that is not important anymore? What changed?
- Where are we stuck, if we are at all? At forty? At fifty?
- Is it possible to be in harmony with contradictions in life?
- What is important to us, now, that is a surprise?

Let's keep keeping it human in the Circle.

great industry information, details on our CircleTalk™ Virtual Training Program, and informative videos!

[click here](#)

Join Us! CircleTalk™ Virtual Training Starts May 4, 2021



Roberta, a new CircleTalk™ Leader tells us, "It feels like Christmas when the curriculum and materials arrive!"

CircleTalk™ continues with our successful virtual training courses - next course is in May and runs 5/4 - 6/1/21.

"I would highly recommend this course to others who are interested in working with seniors experiencing social isolation but may be concerned that they do not have the skill to run a group effectively. This course not only provided excellent material for each group but in addition gave me an opportunity to practice running part of a group on multiple Zoom sessions. Extremely well done course!"

Cindy, CircleTalk™ Leader

For more information and to register [click here](#).

Retooling Workshop May 19, 1-2:30 MST

CircleTalk™ Leaders - Join us for our 90 minute Zoom complimentary workshop May 19, 1-2:30pm MST. We will discuss converting the face-to-face CircleTalk™ program to video and/or phone platforms.

For more information and to sign up for the Retooling Workshop, contact Fawnda@circletalk.org.

Open Office Hours for CircleTalk™ Leaders

Join us this month, 4/28, for our first "Open Office Hour" for our community of trained CircleTalk™ Leaders to join, hear from each other, and get updated on new ways to hold Circles. These will be held on the 4th Wednesday of each month (4/28, 5/26, ...) at 1pm MST.

Contact Fawnda@circletalk.org for the link.

Please get in touch and let us know if there are other ways in which we can support the excellent work that you do. May we all find sources of peace, health and love each day.

Warmest regards,
Deb





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