

**Young Adults & Envisioning the Future
Workshop Track 3
WOWEE 2009**

There will be two small group sessions, one in the morning (session 2 of 4) and one in the afternoon (session 3 of 40). In each, you will first be paired with another person and asked to interview each other, and then share the other person's story with others in the small group.

Morning Small Group Session

In preparation for the morning session, please pick a single question from the list below that you feel you can best answer. Spend time at break thinking about how you would answer that question. Be specific; share the details of the experience you're describing, including your feelings, the situation, the people involved, etc.

During the paired interview in the morning session, give your partner the question you want to be asked, and then proceed to interview each other. You'll each have 15 minutes to tell your story to your partner. Following that, your partner will share your story with your small group. Then, your group will choose one story to share with the whole body of the conference.

Paired Interview Questions (Choose One)

1. Think of a particular time when you felt most alive, most fulfilled, most productive and of greatest worth in a worship, service or fellowship community. When and where was it? Describe the situation, the people with you and what was going on in that community to make it such a significant experience for you.
2. Think about a person who has had a significant positive impact on your life. Describe a particular time when that person's influence helped you deal with difficult times in your life. Who was that person and why were they in your life? What was it about that person's way of being with you that helped you in that time?
3. Think of a time when have you felt especially connected to, or in communion with, something greater than yourself. Please describe it for me. Where were you? What were you doing? Who were you with (if anyone)? What happened that gave you that sense of connection? How did it make you feel?
4. Think of a time you felt most committed, most active, most excited about your participation in a community or group of people dedicated to a particular cause or service to others. Describe a particular experience when you were able to make a special contribution or do a great service in that community. What made it so special in your life? Who else was involved? Share the details of your experience.
5. Thinking about your experience of "Christianity" or "religion" as a young person, was there a time when you became most excited about and involved in a church community? Describe that community, the people in it, and where it was located. Describe what made it such an exciting time and experience for you.

Afternoon Small Group Session

To prepare for the afternoon small group session, think about how you would answer the following:

What are your hopes and wishes for a future spiritual community for yourself and those you love, for your children and their children? Describe how that community would look, how it would work. Describe the kinds of activities in your ideal community that would nurture your love for each other. What things, what activities would most bring you joy? What would most give you the energy to find hope and to pursue peace in your world? What place would the example of Jesus' life and teachings have in such a community? What place, if any, would the examples of other faith traditions have?

During the paired interview at the beginning of the afternoon session, take turns sharing your hopes and wishes for spiritual community with your interview partner. You'll each have 15 minutes to describe your desired spiritual community. Then, you will share your partner's vision of the future with the rest of the small group. You will choose one of your small group to take notes during that small group sharing, to be shared in summary with the whole conference following this afternoon small group session.