



Faithful Climate Action



WORKSHOP OR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION STARTERS

Climate change is a serious issue, but learning about how we can be a part of the solution can still be fun. People often learn better when they have an opportunity to engage with the material being presented. The activities on the following pages invite participants to reflect, imagine, play, and share. Background material on climate justice is available at cpj.ca/climate.

Climate Justice “Bingo”

Materials: bingo sheets (next page) and pens (one per person).

- This introductory activity encourages participants to get to know one another and learn about climate change by answering the questions in each of the “bingo” squares.
- The goal is to complete one column or row (or fill the whole page) by asking others (one by one) for a response to one of the questions. Once a response has been shared, the respondent initials the relevant square.



| <i>Climate Change</i> | <i>Climate Action</i> | <i>You</i> | <i>Faith Action</i> |
|--|---|--|--|
| Do you think climate change is a major concern? | What inspires you to work for change? | Who inspires you to work for change? | What does “climate justice” mean to you? |
| Does Canada contribute more to the problem of climate change, or the solution? | What reasons do you have to address climate change? | Where do you feel the greatest connection with nature? | Name one reason you are praying for climate justice? |
| Name one misunderstanding about climate change. | What one thing gives you hope? | What do you do to have fun? | What does faith have to do with climate justice? |
| Name one thing that would help address climate change. | What environmental action are you most proud to have taken? | What do you do to reenergize yourself? | What are your hopes for Canadian action on climate? |





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We Are All Connected: Spider Web Reflection

Materials: 5x7 sticky notes, markers, a ball of yarn/string.

- Invite participants to stand in a circle. Ask everyone to think a favourite place in nature.
- Give them each a sticky note and marker, and ask them to write one place/plant/creature they love in creation.
- Ask participants to share what they love about nature, describing what it means to them and why.
- Once finished their description, have participants pass the ball of yarn across the circle to the next presenter. *(The first person holds on to the end of the yarn, everyone else also holds on before passing to the next person).*
- When everyone has had an opportunity to speak, and together you have created a spider web, begin a conversation about the interconnectedness of creation.
- After a few minutes, invite one person to drop their piece of yarn, and ask what would happen if their place/plant/creature was lost. Do the same thing 2-3 more times.
- Discuss what happens when one person drops their yarn (the web starts to collapse). Invite participants to reflect on the implications of harming creation (the web collapses).
- Close by asking, “Does your love for (a piece of) creation move you enough to take action?”
- Give participants a few moments to reflect quietly and then move on to the next activity.



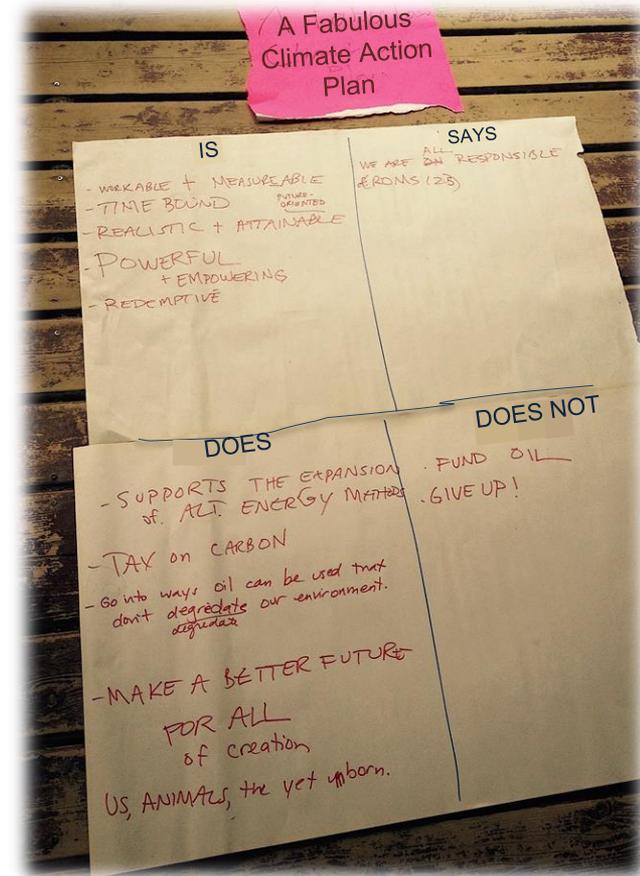


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“A Fabulous Climate Action Plan”

- Write the title “A Fabulous Climate Action Plan” on the top of a large piece of flipchart paper.
- Divide the paper into four quadrants and label them “is,” “says,” “does,” “does not.”
- As a group, brainstorm different endings to each of the statements:
 - A fabulous climate action plan is...
 - A fabulous climate action plan says...
 - A fabulous climate action plan does...
 - A fabulous climate action plan does not...
- Dream big and imagine the possibilities!
- Consider who you might speak to or write to (e.g. your MP) to make this fabulous plan a reality.





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Colourful Q&A

Materials: A bowl of smarties, skittles or some other colourful candy.

- Sit in a circle and pass around the bowl of candy.
- Each participant is invited to take one candy and respond according to the colour they have chosen.

Use this guide:

- name an environmental action you currently take at home. (e.g. compost)
- name an environmental action you *could* take at church. (e.g. window efficiency)
- name something you could do to raise awareness about climate issues. (e.g. twitter)
- ask the discussion leader or the group something about climate change.
- name someone you could talk to, to help you address climate change. (e.g. priest or MP)
- name something you could read to learn more about climate change and how to respond (e.g. cpj.ca)
- name one action you could take to bring climate action to your faith community (e.g. prayers for creation or a climate-focused homily)
- name something you could do to get more involved in climate action. (e.g. participate in a Prayers for Paris worship service or Climate March)





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Sending Forth

Materials: small sticky notes in three colours (e.g. yellow, pink, green).

- Give each participant three sticky notes, one of each colour. Identify which colour is for which statement and invite them to write:
 - (1) a learning from today;
 - (2) how you're feeling now;
 - (3) one action that you will take to make a difference for the fate of the earth.
- Depending on the time available, give participants an opportunity to share one or more of their notes.
- You may wish to post a human silhouette (made out of a couple of sheets of flip chart paper) and have people post their notes on the (1) head, (2) heart, and (3) hands.

Nothing we talked about today really matters – unless you do something with it!

