

Components of a Letter

Session 4 Handout

1. Address it to the person...Dear _____. In this case, the letter will be addressed to you. How might God address you? Dear Son? Dear Daughter? Dear Beloved? My dear Gift to the World?

 2. The greeting. This is where the person writing tells you how much they miss you or love you or what they like about you or what makes you you or what makes you so special to them. What might God say to you about you?

 3. Purpose for writing (The reason I'm writing is Why might God be writing to you?) The purpose for writing can include one or more of the following:
 - A. Sharing of the self (There's some things about me I want to share with you). What might God be wanting to share about God with you in this letter?
 - B. Inquiring of the other (I've heard you've been up to this, or quit this other thing...and I'm concerned....what's going on?) How might God express care/concern for you?
 - C. Giving observations/information/advice (Think about this specific thing this way; Have you considered...?) What perspective might God share with you about certain things that you are interested in or that are going on in your life?

 4. Expressions of Good wishes/blessings/care and the desire to communicate again soon. What might God say to you about talking to you? What kind of experience has writing this letter been for God?

 5. Closing/Signature - How might God end a letter....*would* God end a letter...?
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Encouragement:

Don't worry about getting it wrong. You are practicing. When you practice, you'll make mistakes. That's alright. Don't worry about it. Just jump on in.

There might be some concerns or questions that you have for God about you or God. Pretend that you wrote God a letter with those concerns and questions. And now you are imagining what God's response to that letter is.

Start by being still. But then you will have to put the pen/pencil to the paper, even if you don't have the words. Use the "Parts of the Letter" format above to help you get started.