Galatians 3: 27-29: *As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.*  (NRSV)

Responsive Listening Bible StudyProcess

1. Introduce yourselves to each other and decide on a leader at your table.

2. Read through the Bible passage out loud (either one person or several each reading a verse).

3. Using mutual invitation, invite participants to share a word, phrase or image that has captured them in this first hearing. Do not comment or elaborate on what is shared.

4. Read through the passage a second time out loud (different reader or shared reading).

5. Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question: How does the church live out this vision?

6. Using mutual invitation, invite participants to share their answers to the reflection question.

7. Pause here and wait for the facilitator to move the whole group into conversations around Key Understandings.

8. When directed, read through the passage a third time out loud (different reader or shared reading).

9. Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question: What is God calling me/us to do, be or change as a result of this experience? (practical next steps are encouraged.)

10. Using mutual invitation, invite participants to share their answers to the reflection question.

11. Close the Bible study time with a prayer. Depending on the size of the group in your room, you will either pray around your table or by mutual invitation for another table. If praying around your table, each participant will pray for something that she or he heard during the conversation – a celebration, a hurt, a change to be made, a thanksgiving, etc.

If in a smaller room, the leader from each table will be invited to share one thing from the conversation with the whole group – a celebration, a hurt, a change to be made, a thanksgiving, etc. When a table has shared, they will invite another table to share. The next table will begin by praying for the previous table and then share their one thing. Mutual invitation and prayer will continue until all have shared and prayed for each other. The facilitator will pray for the last table.