

PAGE FOUR – MORE THAN ONE ANGLE

Note: If you are starting with a new session, remind the group of the agreement to honor one another's opinions and to keep shared ideas in the group. Check in with group members regarding any research they might have completed that tells about the ideas covered in the previous lesson. Ask the group to share any images that they might have brought to this session. Prior to the session, display the large sheets of newsprint from discussions with the sessions from PAGE ONE, and PAGE TWO. Display an additional blank sheet of newsprint next to these two.

This final page of PRAYER AND FAITH – MIND, BODY, SPIRIT: ARE THEY CONNECTED? is designed to help youth focus on both the scientific and religious views of how the mind, body, and spirit might be connected.

To begin the session, open the website and review the first three pages of PRAYER AND FAITH – MIND, BODY, SPIRIT: ARE THEY CONNECTED?.

Next, review the responses on the two large sheets of newsprint from discussions with the sessions from PAGE ONE, and PAGE TWO. Ask the group members to share one significant thing they may have learned or discovered about the scientific and religious views of how prayer and faith might or might not be connected and affect physical health and healing. Discuss how they might have engaged other youth or family members in this learning and any conversations that might have occurred, either in person or in a social media setting.

Next, look at page four, MORE THAN ONE ANGLE, and

review the information listed on the page. View the links showing both the optical illusions created by the artist and the article on optical illusions and how they work.

Reinforce the concept that it is important to see things from different perspectives and refrain from taking a rigid perspective that limits input from other sources. Help the group understand that this learning is a basic way of looking at this issue, and that just like science and religion, their ideas will change and become more complex.

Next, ask the group to consider how they might respond to others about the effects of prayer and spirituality as a result of the learning in this lesson. Encourage the group to consider ways to respond from both a scientific and religious viewpoint. Write the responses on the large blank sheet of newsprint and display it next to the others from previous sessions. Ask the group to reflect on how their understanding of this issue may or may not have changed.

For additional learning, ask a member of the congregation or other source who has a career in medicine to come and share how they integrate their faith and scientific beliefs.