## MODULE 5

## THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH TO ADDRESS THE WORLD

## MAINTAINING RELIGIOUS AND CIVIC AUTHENTICITY AND INTEGRITY

Thank you for taking on this helpful role. The role of the facilitator is both technical/logistical and also valuable to deepen the experience.

The technical side is literally to pause the session at key moments and start the computer session again after the break. You will know when to hit pause because a sign will pop up with a person holding a stop sign. There will be a task for the group to do.

You certainly can introduce the session (so please watch it in advance), but that is not necessary as it is meant to be self-explanatory. You may want to just tell participants that the sessions are all on line so taking notes would make sense to highlight that which personally seems very important. Each person can always return to the module. And tell them that there will be exercises for them to do either in small groups or dyads.

**One more recommendation:**  If during the module presentation or in conversation at any point, you hear complaints, frustrations or anger over something that a participant saw or heard, please explain that this is not your program, that you were asked to facilitate, and to please direct any concerns or questions to the team that created this by going on the website and giving feedback. We always want to hear from participants and have changed the modules as a result. While from our experience, it is unlikely that you will have any problems, we want to remind you (and for you to remind others) that you are a facilitator and no one should critique you.

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Start the video – MODULE 5

The first exercise begins at 2:51. The questions asked are:

1. Which if any of these words or phrases speak to you as authentic motivators for constructive civic engagement?
2. What would you add to help motivate people to engage as people of faith in difficult issues?

Hit the pause button at 3:16. If you want, you could read the questions above. Then ask them to work in pairs or triads to discuss. Tell them that they will have four minutes. Please keep track of the time.

At three and a half minutes tell them they have a half minute more. Stop at four minutes. If you want, you could ask for a few comments– limit them to no more than three. Please hold down lots of group conversation at this point – there is much more to do.

Hit the play button and resume the learning..

The second exercise is at 4:34. The questions asked are:

1. What religious language and images, stories and values, could you use to help your community engage effectively and respectfully in civil discourse … even with those with whom we disagree.

Hit the PAUSE button at 4:49. If you want, you could read the question. Then ask them to work in pairs or triads to discuss. Tell them that they will have five minutes. Please keep track of the time.

At 4 minutes tell them they have one more minute. Stop at five minutes. If you want, you could ask for a few comments– limit them to no more than three. Please hold down lots of group conversation at this point – there is much more to do.

Hit the play button and resume the learning.

The last activity begins at 18:20. It asks for everyone to think of a blessing that would inspire and honor a commitment to do good in the world – feeling true and speaking in their own faith traditions .

Hit the Pause button at 18:.43 Allow for a few moments of silence. Let there be silence if necessary until someone speaks. Not everyone will do so and that is all right. We do not need to fill the silence. If you feel there are too many people in the room, then you could create smaller circles. If no one speaks, you may want to offer something as closure.

The session ends at 19:38 minutes. Please thank everyone who participated and remind them that the entire series is on line. Please also ask them to go to the site and give feedback as well as signing in. That helps us greatly in our work.

**https://wagner.nyu.edu/leadership/religionandcivics/feedback**

And once again, thanks so much.