

Discussion Schedule

Jan 20	Introduction
27	Chapter 1
Feb 3	Chapter 2
10	Chapters 3 and 4
17	Chapters 5 and 6
24	Conclusion

Please bring your questions and share your insights.

Try to use I statements when speaking

A reminder: these sessions are recorded.

Other expectations

Introduction

1. “Who is Jesus, really?” asks Diana Butler Bass (p. xviii). How would you answer this simple yet complex question?
2. Have you ever had any reluctance to identify as a Christian? (Anne Lamott quote)
3. The title of the book is Freeing Jesus, and the book opens with a story of Diana hearing what she felt was the voice of Jesus asking to be sprung from the cathedral she was in. From what do you think Jesus needs to be freed?
4. What does freeing Jesus mean to you?
5. Do you have a freeing Jesus moment ?
6. Bass lays out three different terms for understanding Jesus: “Jesus of history,” “Christ of faith,” and “Jesus of experience” (pp. xviii–xx). Which one are you more familiar with? Why?
7. What has been your understanding of Jesus through-out your life? How have you seen that change over the years?

Notes:

Spiritual memoir and/or theological memoir

St Francis heard God say rebuild my church.

Cataphatic vs apophatic quote on pg. xix

Statistics:

9 out of 10 believe Jesus is a real person

6 out of 10 have a relationship with Jesus

Pg. xxvi exercise in memory for all of us

Freeing Jesus = Finding Jesus.

