

# DIGITAL WORKBOOK

riverbend

# 72

# **SCHEDULE**

2 Loose Schedule of Events

# MAP

Map of Mo-Ranch

# **GETTING STARTED**

- **Landing Spots & Calling**
- **Telling Your Story**

# **SESSIONS NOTES**

- Session 1: Friday Night
- Session 2: Saturday Morning
- 12 Breakout Session
- 13 | Session 3: Saturday Evening
- Session 4: Sunday Morning



# **FRIDAY**

4:00PM | Arrive

5:30PM | Dinner @ Dining Hall

6:45PM | Main Session 1 @ Main Hall

9:30PM | Free Time

# SATURDAY

7:30AM | Breakfast @ Dining Hall

8:45AM | Session 2 @ Main hall

11:30AM | Lunch @ Dining Hall

1:30PM | Breakout Sessions (optional)

1:30PM | Free Time

5:30PM | BBQ! @ Main Hall

7:00PM | Session 3 @ Main Hall

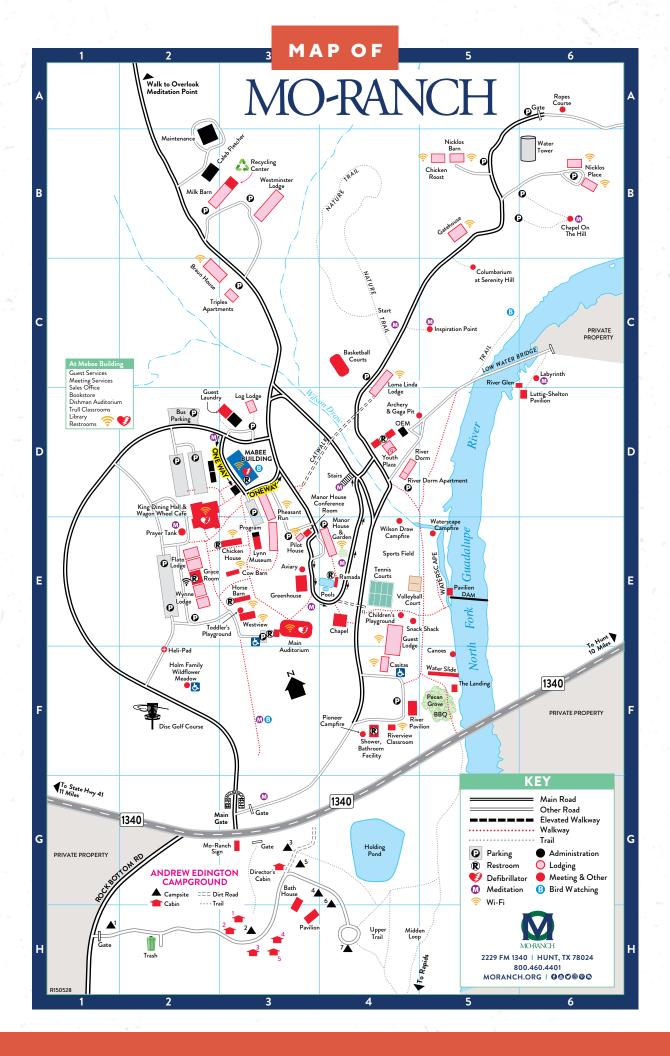
9:30PM | Free Time

# **SUNDAY**

7:30AM | Breakfast - 7:30A @ Dining Hall

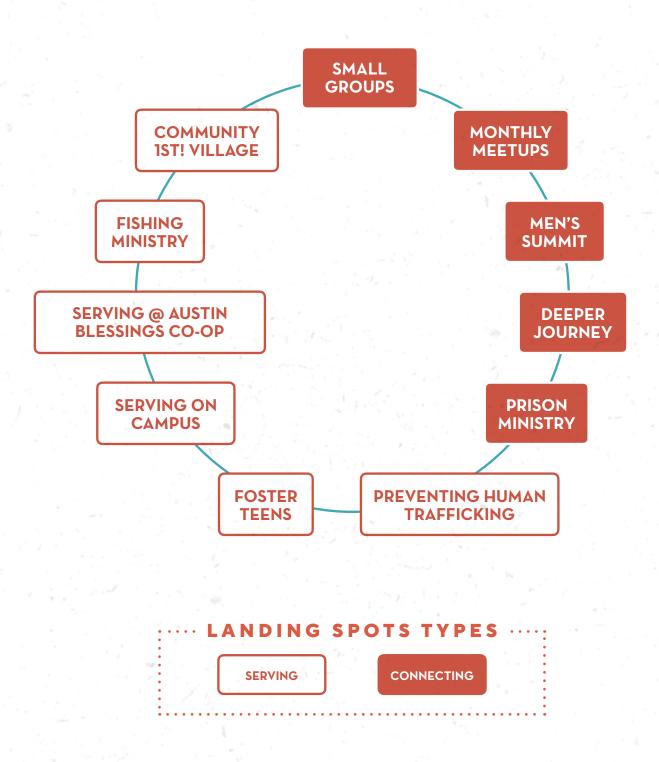
8:45AM | Session 4 @ Main hall

11:00AM | Pack up/Leave



# GETTING STARTED

# LANDING SPOTS AND CALLING



# TELLING YOUR STORY

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17 ESV

#### **6 WORD STORIES: SAMPLES**

For Sale. Baby Shoes. Never worn.

Hemingway

Well, I thought it was funny.

Stephen Colbert

Couldn't cope so I wrote songs.

Aimee Mann

These violent delights have violent ends.

Shakespeare

Think and wonder. Wonder and think.

Dr. Seuss

It's been a hard day's night.

The Beatles

Divorce your story; Marry the truth.

Tony Robbins

# WHAT'S YOUR 6 WORD STORY? WHAT'S YOUR EMOJI STORY?

Develop and share anytime over the weekend using **menti.com** 

#### SHARE YOUR STORY .....



go to

www.menti.com

enter code

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# SESSION NOTES

# God is God, and I am not

# (and that's a good thing).

Contribute to your **Table Storybook** throughout the weekend. Feel free to creatively add to the story book whenever you are moved to. Your addition can represent your own story, or even another man's story at your table.

Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb. I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made!

I worship in adoration—what a creation! You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something.

Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you, The days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day.

Psalm 138: 13-16 The Message

#### **TABLE GUIDE**

- 1. Which of the following kinds of storyteller are you? It's your story – tell it however you like – just make it real.
  - The Tall Tale Teller
  - The Down-player
  - The Rather Not Say
  - The Listener
  - The One-upper

- The Ashamed
- The Too Many Details
- The Heartfelt Crier
- Other?

Reality itself, our reality, my limited and sometimes misinterpreted experience, still becomes the revelatory place for God.

Rohr, Everything Belongs

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2. Share one of these:	NOTES
» What is the stupidest thing you've ever done?	
» What is the best/greatest thing you ever did?	
» Who did you want to be/look up to?	
3. What do you think God would say about your answers?	
4. Do you think our 'ordinary' stories are 'worthy of being sacred'?	
Everything Belongs.	
Fr. Richard Rohr	
We are simultaneously Saints and sinners.	
Martin Luther	§ .
5. Do you believe that 'everything belongs' in your life? How about your family's – especially your parent's lives?	
To acknowledge, to accept, and to forgive one's parents - both what they gave and what they did not give, both one's dependence upon them and one's independence of them - is the ultimate hallmark of maturity: a perception as valid for institutions as for individuals.	***************************************
Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection	
The question "Who am I?" really asks, "Where do I belong or fit?" We get the sense of that "direction" – the sense of moving toward the place where we fit, or of shaping the place toward which we are moving so that it will fit us – from hearing how others have handled or are attempting to handle similar (but never exactly the same) situations. We learn by listening to their stories, by hearing how they came (or failed) to belong or fit.	
Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection	
6. Who keeps your story safe/sacred, yet keeps you honest and humble?	
7. Can you accept your story as exactly the one God intended?	

# Am I My Brother's Keeper? (Why what happens next matters).

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love.  This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.  And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're	y to do <b>table-storybooks</b> .
or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're	ving truly, living in God's ebilitating self-criticism, God is greater than our
able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.  1 John 3:18-24 The Message	and free before God! We're we what we asked for because eases him. Again, this is nally named Son, Jesus in line with the original we live deeply and surely in we experience his deep and
TABLE GUIDE	
1. Who do you love?	
2. Who do you struggle to accept/love?	t/love?
3. Why do you think listening to others - especially other generations - can be so hard sometimes?	
The message of all spirituality is that, in some mysterious way, we are all one—that therefore the joy and the sorrow of any one of us is the joy and the sorrow of all of us.	orrow of any one of us is the
4. Do you believe we are all interconnected?	

Why? Why not?

When we accept ourselves in all our weakness, flaws, and failings, we can begin to fulfill an even more challenging responsibility: accepting the weakness, limitations, and mixed-up-ed-ness of those we love and respect. Then and only then, it seems, do we become able to accept the weakness, defects, and shortcomings of those we find it difficult to love."

#### Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection

- 5. Do you understand how the next generation struggles to overcome 'debilitating self-criticism' and 'worried hearts'?
- 6. Do you believe that "Jesus is on the move", as Pastor Nick says? What does that look like?
- 7. What would it mean for you to be a part of shaping the next generation from a place of acceptance, love and commitment?

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# BREAKOUT SESSION

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# The Sacred Practice of Listening and Living in Reality

Make sure to prioritize time for last questions. And remember that any Q's can be opportunity to do **table-storybooks**.

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it —we're called children of God! That's who we really are.

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

1 John 3:1, 18-24 The Message

#### **TABLE GUIDE**

Listen! Listen to stories! For spirituality itself is conveyed by stories, which use words in ways that go beyond words to speak the language of the heart. Especially in a spirituality of imperfection, a spirituality of not having all the answers, stories convey the mystery and the miracle - and the adventure - of being alive.

Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection:

It is grace that forms the void inside us, and it is grace that can fill the	NOTES
void.	
Simone Weil	
1. What do you think this quote means?	
2. Is it true for you?	
3. What is the limit of God's grace to you? To others?	
When a man comes to you and tells you your own story, you know that your sins are forgiven. And when you are forgiven, you are healed."	
Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection	
4. What does this mean for you?	
5. Do you believe this?	
6. What would it mean for you to help other people see the sacredness in their stories?	
WRAP-UP QUESTIONS:	
To deny our errors is to deny ourself, for to be human is to be imperfect, somehow error-prone. To be human is to ask unanswerable questions, but to persist in asking them, to be broken and ache for wholeness, to hurt and to try to find a way to healing through the hurt.	
Ernest Kurtz, The Spirituality of Imperfection	
7. Is there an area/part of your life you are concerned you're not in reality with – something that needs surrendering?	
8. Do you believe God wants to release you from 'condemning' yourself, from 'self-debilitating criticism', so you may be 'bold and free'?	
9. Is there a need for unburdening tonight – anything you would like prayer for?	

# Show Me What You Got

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are.

For this is the original message we heard: **We should love each** other.

This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

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1 John 3:1, 11, 16-24 The Message

### STORY 1

The devotee knelt to be initiated into discipleship. The guru whispered the sacred mantra into his ear warning him not to reveal it to anyone.

"What will happen if I do?" asked the Devotee.

Said the Guru: "Anyone to whom you reveal the mantra will be

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liberated from bondage of ignorance and suffering, but yourself will be excluded from discipleship and suffer damnation."	NOTES
No sooner had he heard those words than the devotee rushed to the marketplace, gathered a large crowd around him, and repeated the sacred mantra for all to hear.	
The other disciples later reported this to the guru and demanded that the man be expelled from the monastery for his disobedience.	
The guru smiled and said: "He has no need of anything I can teach. His action has shown him to be a guru in his own right."	
STORY 2	
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A man, walking through the forest saw a fox that had lost its legs, and wondered how it lived. Then he saw a tiger come up with game in its mouth. The tiger ate its fill and left the rest of the meat for the fox. The next day God fed the fox by means of the same tiger.	
The man began to wonder at God's greatness and said to himself, "I too shall just rest in a corner with full trust in the Lord and He will provide me with all I need."	
He did this for many days, but nothing happened, and he was almost at death's door when he heard a voice say, "O you who are in the path of error, open your eyes to the truth! Stop imitating the disabled fox and follow the example of the tiger."	
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