

Global Warming: Changing CO₂urse

A FIVE SESSION DISCUSSION CIRCLE FOR THE HOME, FAITH CENTER OR WORKPLACE

“We are no longer passive victims of the climate system’s slow oscillations; we are now, as a collective, atmospheric engineers.”

GOALS:

- ◆ To explore personal values and habits as they relate to climate change.
- ◆ To understand the history and science of global warming.
- ◆ To empower individuals to take action to curb global warming.



SESSION 1..... ..OFF COURSE

Communities around the world are experiencing the effects of global warming. This session explores personal responses to climate change and why society has been slow to respond.

SESSION 2.....COLLISION COURSE

To better understand the complexities of global warming, this session breaks down the history and science of global climate change, and identifies our participation in this ecological crisis.

SESSION 3.....CHANGING COURSE

Although global warming is a daunting issue, there are accessible and significant actions we can all take. This session explores new strategies for addressing climate change and considers personal action to mitigate the effects of global warming.

SESSION 4..... SETTING A NEW COURSE

What will it take to create a sustainable future? Explore our individual and collective power to shape an effective response to climate change, enabling future generations to meet their needs.

SESSION 5..... CALL TO ACTION / WRAP-UP

For information on how to join or start a Global Warming: Changing CO₂urse discussion circle in MD or DC, please visit www.simplicity-matters.org/info



Simplicity Matters Earth Institute

Simple living for a sustainable future

www.simplicity-matters.org | contact@simplicity-matters.org | 301-432-8721

Global Warming: Changing CO₂urse

Readings and Excerpts

Session One – Off Course. “Global Warming Twenty Years Later” by Dr. James Hansen ♦ “A Storm of Denial” by Paul Rogat Loeb ♦ “Global Warming Tipping Point” by Michael Bloch ♦ “Global Warming Feedback Loops” by Madeline Ostrander ♦ “It’s the End of the World as We Know It” by Daniel Gilbert ♦ “How to Be a Climate Hero” by Audrey Schulman ♦ Carbon Footprint Exercise

Session Two – Collision Course. “The Right War” by Ban Ki-Moon ♦ “Sea Change” by Julia Whitty and Robert Knoth ♦ “The Climate Divide” by Andrew C. Revkin ♦ “Global Warming Hastens Spring’s Arrival” by Seth Borenstein ♦ “Breaking the Boundaries of Life” by Gary Braasch ♦ “Facing a Threat to Farming and Food Supply” by Rick Weiss ♦ Excerpt from “The Climate of Man III” by Elizabeth Kolbert ♦ Session 2 Action Plan: Immediate Actions

Session Three – Changing Course. “Why Bother?” by Michael Pollan ♦ “Is Local Always Better?” by Tess Taylor ♦ “My Low-Carbon Diet” by Seth Zuckerman ♦ “Are We Ready to Track Carbon Footprints?” by John Tierney ♦ “Brother, can you spare a carbon credit?” by Rebecca Tuhus-Dubrow ♦ “Where Have All the Joiners Gone?” by Bill McKibben ♦ Session 3 Action Plan: Further Actions

Session Four – Setting a New Course. “Beating the Heat” by Matt Sutkoski ♦ Excerpt from Soul of a Citizen by Paul Rogat Loeb ♦ “Mayors Stand Up” by Madeline Ostrander ♦ “The Green-Collar Solution” by Thomas L. Friedman ♦ “This postman always thinks green” by Max Christern ♦ “The Politics of Limits” by Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger ♦ Excerpt from Al Gore’s Nobel Lecture ♦ Session 4 Action Plan: Organizational

Session Five – Call to Action / Wrap-Up. Evaluation and Next Steps

For information on how to join or start a Global Warming: Changing CO₂urse discussion circle in MD or DC, please visit www.simplicity-matters.org/info



Simplicity Matters Earth Institute

Simple living for a sustainable future

www.simplicity-matters.org | contact@simplicity-matters.org | 301-432-8721