

ReconcilingWorks Book Club Reflection Questions

June 2026

Here are thoughtful book club reflection questions for a ReconcilingWorks gathering centered on [Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians](#) by Austen Hartke, a book that brings together biblical interpretation, personal story, and theological reflection to help readers imagine a more expansive and affirming Christian faith.

1. What was one idea, story, or scripture reflection that stayed with you after reading?
2. Austen invites readers to approach scripture with curiosity rather than fear. How did that invitation shape your experience of the book?
3. Did this book challenge or expand your understanding of gender, embodiment, or what it means to be created in God's image? How?
4. How did Austen's use of personal story alongside biblical interpretation deepen your understanding of the themes in the book?
5. Where have you seen the church create harm for transgender and gender-expansive people, and where have you witnessed healing, affirmation, or hope?
6. What does genuine welcome look like beyond inclusion statements or symbolic gestures in faith communities?
7. How does this book challenge Reconciling in Christ communities—and the wider church—to move from welcome toward celebration, advocacy, and shared leadership?
8. What felt like good news in this book, particularly for transgender people, their loved ones, and the church?
9. What is one concrete step you or your faith community could take to better support and celebrate transgender and gender-expansive people?
10. How are we being transformed—not just in what we believe, but in how we embody God's expansive love together?