

“MORE THAN ONE CONVERSATION” STUDY GUIDE

1. What was your first impression of the video? What experiences surprised you? Disturbed you? Resonated with the experiences you have heard from people with disabilities in your life?
2. Stephanie shared about the extra work required of people with disabilities in the search and call process. In what other ways do MIDs and ministers with disabilities have to do extra work?
3. A theme throughout the video is seeing all persons, including persons with disabilities, as “whole persons.” What makes that hard to do?
4. Laura invites COMs to ask MIDs with disabilities open-ended questions rather than implying a perspective, or even an answer, when in conversation. When have you noticed your COM doing that well? When have you noticed asking open-ended questions to be a struggle?
5. Bekah points out that most ministers, and perhaps especially ministers with disabilities, experience mental health challenges at some point in their lives. How do you think your COM works with MIDs and ministers with mental health challenges?
6. Kimberly states that she “doesn’t have to mask with her COM.” What does it mean for a person with a disability to “mask?” What might create the conditions that someone wouldn’t need to “mask?”
7. What were the conditions that enabled JJ to feel seen and heard during his MID process?
8. How might stigma show up in your COM? What are some ways to move beyond stigma?
9. What unique strengths do you think ministers with disabilities might bring to authorized ministry?
10. What are some areas for growth and further study for your Committee on Ministry as it relates to understanding ableism and its impact?