

Saving Us Reading Guide

1. In what ways have you experienced the tribalism of today's world? In what ways have you been a participant in "us vs. them" polarization?
2. "Climate change affects nearly all of the issues that we already care about." What matters to you? How has/will climate change impact that?
3. What are a few statements you could have "in your back pocket" for quickly, calmly directing conversation away from "zombie arguments" to climate science?
4. How has your perception of the importance of generous, empathetic conversations shifted based on the following quote: "Think of every conversation as being three conversations at once: about facts, feelings, and identity"?
5. How do you deal with your own fear, anxiety, or anger about climate change?
6. How can we encourage pride in taking action on climate, rather than shaming those who are not doing things the way we would do them?
7. In what practical ways can we love others to move beyond fear and shame/guilt associated with climate change?
8. Think of your local or regional area. In what ways has it benefitted from a stable climate? What does it stand to lose as the Earth warms?
9. What is your most memorable weather story? How could you connect that story to the loading of our "weather dice" against us?
10. Do you experience eco-anxiety? How could acknowledging emotions like despair, fear, or hopelessness be a first action step?
11. Climate change is a human issue, not just a science issue, or an environmental issue. It's a health issue, a food issue, a water issue, and an economic issue. How do your values in one of these areas mean that you already care about climate?
12. In what ways do the actions of individuals matter, given that one hundred companies are responsible for the vast majority of greenhouse gas emissions?
13. Which climate solutions resonate with you the most? How could you present this solution to someone who isn't convinced climate action is valuable?
14. Bonding and connecting with each other is critical to having meaningful conversations, rather than arguments that go nowhere. What challenges do we face in today's world when it comes to finding common ground? How can we navigate these challenges?