

Small Group Ministry
Session Plan
Loose Ends

Preparation: Have pieces of rope, string or yarn for each participant to handle during the session. Preferably have pieces that can unravel or fray.

Opening Words:

Loose ends, the ending that is not quite complete, or neat, or secure.

Will it ever be done, or complete or neat? Does it need to be?

If so, how is it done?

To tie up loose ends is to resolve unresolved business.

But will there always be some loose ends?

Does having loose ends means that we are still living, still growing.

Working with loose ends may be like weaving that never ends.

To tie up loose ends is to bring closure to the old and make room for the new.

Check-in/Sharing: How are things with you today?

Topic: Distribute the rope, string or yarn. Handle it however you choose: braid, knot, make a design or object. .

The term *loose ends* refers to the ends of a rope, string, or cable that needs to be fastened. Most sources speculate that the term *loose ends*, and the longer expression *tying up loose ends*, both come from nautical origins.

If a sailor preparing a boat for departure has many things to do. One of the minor details is making sure to tie any untied strings on board the ship.

This is a common expression in business contexts as well as in more informal, conversational English. People talk about tying up some loose ends of a work project. This mean that there are some final details about a project that they must work on before the project is fully finished.

Loose ends has existed since the 1800s. However, *tying up loose ends* only started becoming popular in the early 1900s.

“Tie up loose ends” To deal with the minor consequences of a previous action; to tidy up, finish, or complete.

Share examples of loose ends in you life.

If you are working with rope or yarn, how do you finish off the ends (tie knots, weave)?

What happens if loose ends don't get tied up or trimmed? What does it matter?

Closing:

Complete thought:

I tied up these loose end and

I cannot tie up this loose end and

Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Augusta, ME June 2020, Rev. Helen Zidowecki