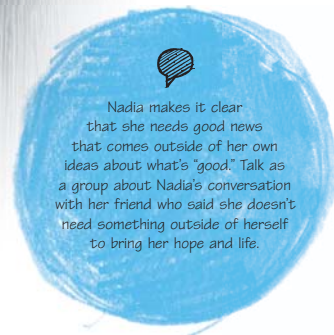




WHAT DOES ODYSSEUS HAVE TO DO WITH THE GOSPEL OF MARK? WELL, THERE ARE SOME THEORIES THAT SUGGEST MARK MIGHT HAVE BORROWED HIS NARRATIVE STRUCTURE FROM HOMER'S ODYSSEY, ONE OF THE MANY PARALLELS BETWEEN THE TWO COMES WHEN ODYSSEUS DISGUISES HIMSELF SO HE CAN CHECK ON THINGS BACK HOME. ONE OF ODYSSEUS' SERVANTS TELLS THIS "STRANGER" THAT HIS MASTER IS DEAD AND GONE, BUT ODYSSEUS USES THE WORD "EUANGELION" TO PREDICT THE GOOD NEWS THAT THE MASTER WILL RETURN TO SET THINGS RIGHT ONCE MORE.



Ask participants to turn to someone else and talk about what they wrote in their "good news" banner.



Nadia makes it clear that she needs good news that comes outside of her own ideas about what's "good." Talk as a group about what's "good." Talk as a group about Nadia's conversation with her friend who said she doesn't need something outside of herself to bring her hope and life.

? NADIA TALKS ABOUT THE WORD "gospel" as a proclamation that demands a response. Does our faith feel like a response to the good news? In what ways does it succeed? In what ways does it fail?

? ASK YOUR GROUP TO CARRY THIS question into their day-to-day lives. Where do they see the good news playing out in the world around them?