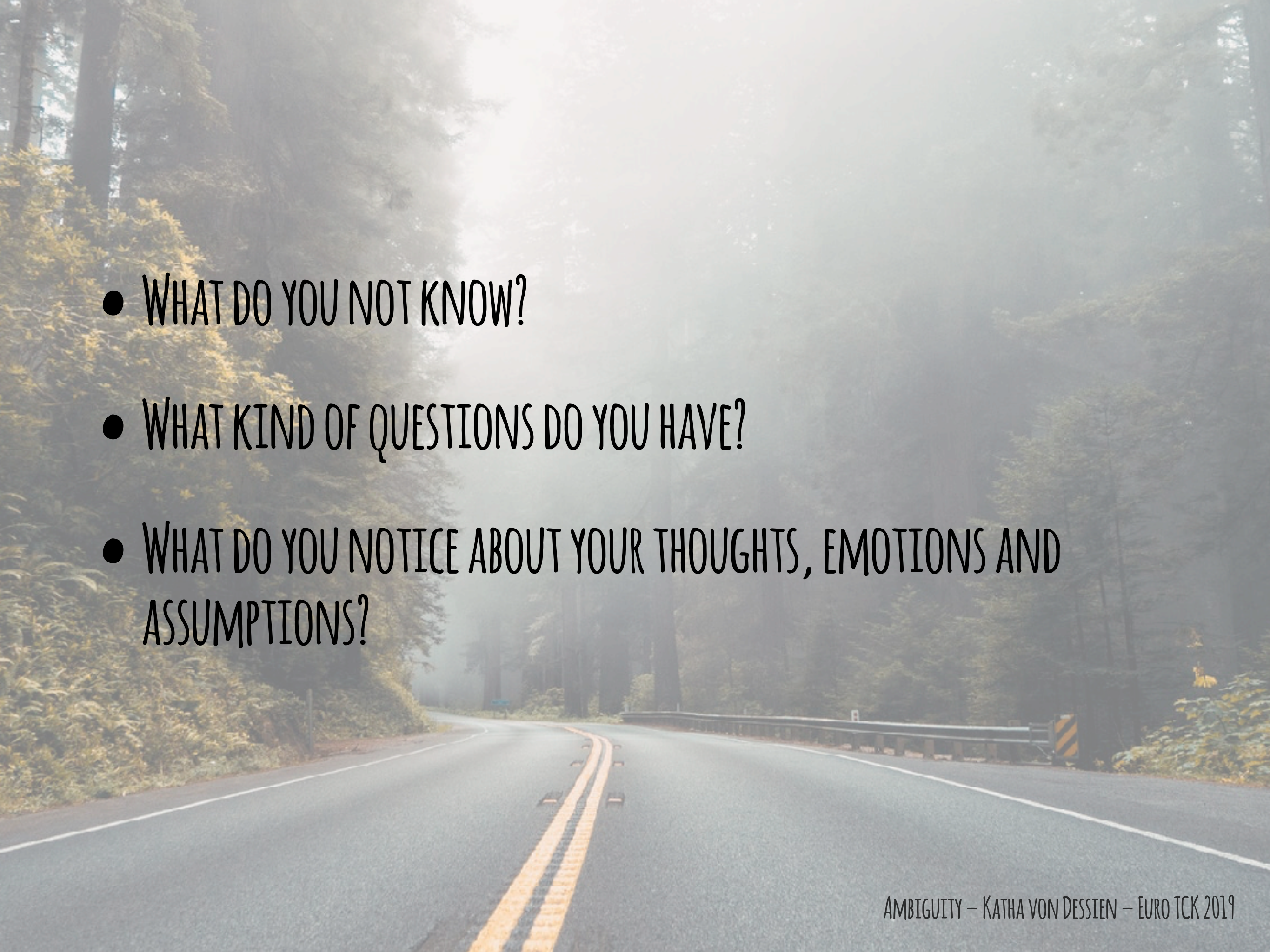


A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a dense forest. The road has a double yellow line in the center and white lines on the edges. The forest is thick with tall trees, and a mist or fog hangs in the air, creating a mysterious and somewhat somber atmosphere. The lighting is soft, with some light filtering through the trees in the distance.

SITTING IN THE UNKNOWN

DEALING WITH AMBIGUITY

KATHA VON DESSIEN
EURO TCK 2019

- 
- WHAT DO YOU NOT KNOW?
 - WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?
 - WHAT DO YOU NOTICE ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS, EMOTIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS?

AMBIGUITY

- “THE STATE OF UNCERTAINTY AND DOUBT” (MERRIAM WEBSTER)

AMBIGUITY TODAY

AMBIGUITY TODAY



AMBIGUITY

WE LIVE IN A VUCA WORLD

- VOLATILE
- UNCERTAIN
- COMPLEX
- AMBIGUOUS

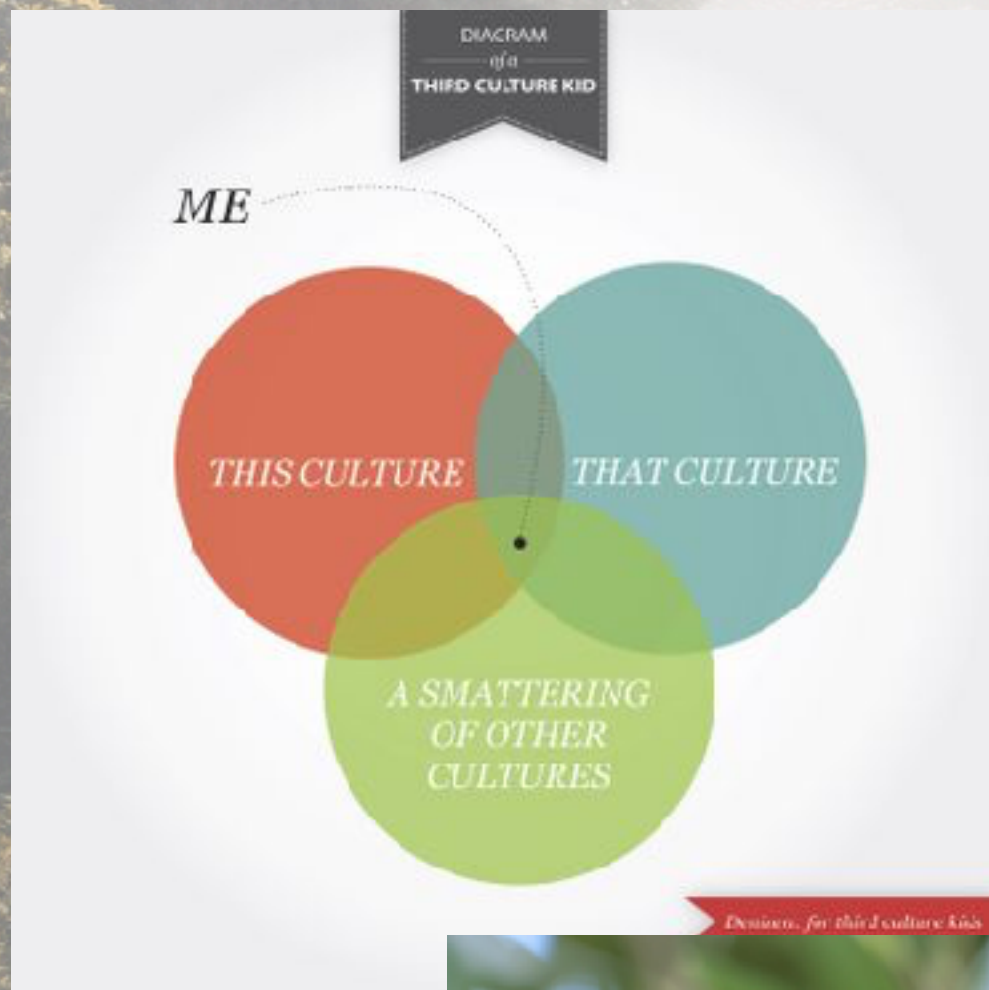
AMBIGUITY FOR CCKS

AMBIGUITY FOR CCKS

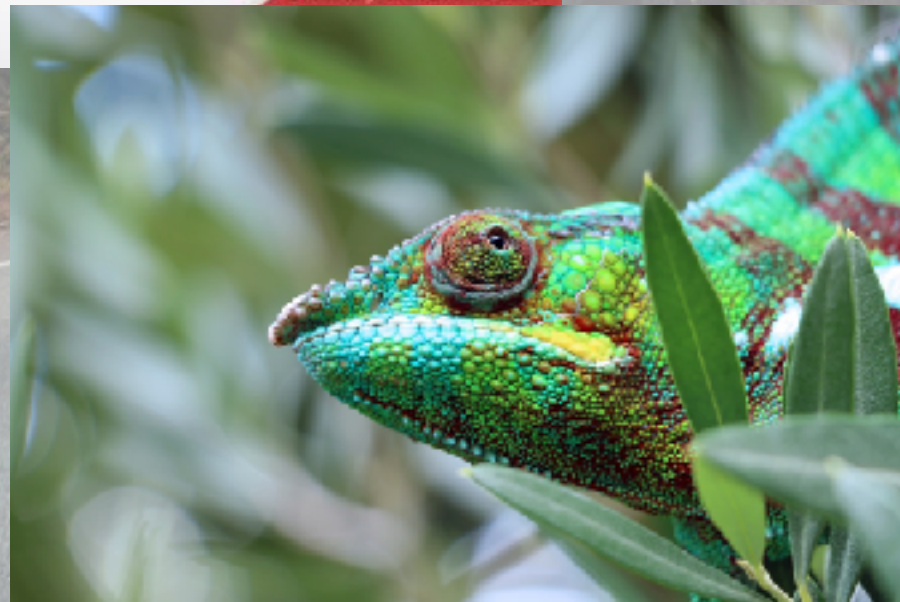
- “RE-ENTRY” INTO A DIFFERENT WORLD THAN THEIR PARENTS



AMBIGUITY FOR CCKS

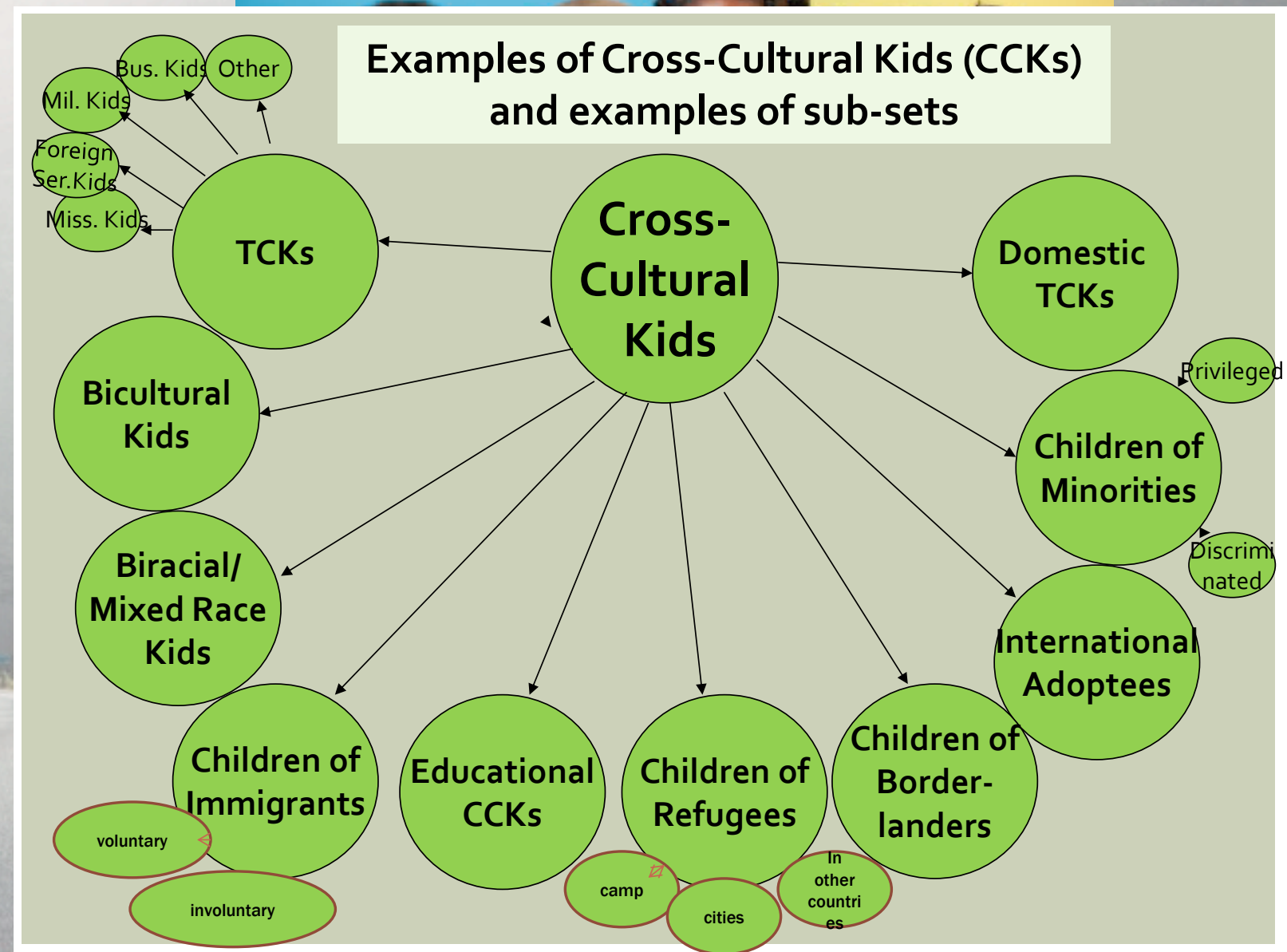


- ELEMENTS OF MANY CULTURES, BUT NO FULL SENSE OF BELONGING
- HIDING PARTS OF YOURSELF IN ORDER TO FIT IN



AMBIGUITY FOR CCKS

- PASSPORT AND HOST CULTURE ARE OFTEN MULTICULTURAL
- CROSS CULTURAL WORLD IS BIGGER THAN THEIR OWN BUBBLE



AMBIGUITY FOR CCKS



- FAITH MIGHT LOOK DIFFERENT THAN ON THE FIELD OR THEIR PARENTS
- GOD SEEMS ABSENT IN NEW CULTURE

THE STORY OF JOB

- WEALTHY
- CLEAR ROLE AS HEAD OF THE FAMILY
- RESPECT
- GOD: GOOD AND TRUSTWORTHY



- WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME?
- WHO WILL SUPPORT ME?
- WHAT WILL MY LIFE BE?
- CAN I STILL TRUST GOD?

EASY-WAY-OUT ANSWERS TO AMBIGUITY

- “IT IS BLACK AND WHITE”
› POPULISM
- “YOU HAVE SINNED”
› BLAME
- “YOU NEED TO PRAY MORE”
› RUSHING THROUGH

DEALING WITH AMBIGUITY (GROUP SUGGESTIONS)

- ACCEPT THAT THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANSWERS TO EVERYTHING AND CARRY ON
- ASK WISE(R) PEOPLE, SEEK OUT FRIENDS
- PUT YOUR QUESTIONS INTO PERSPECTIVE
- GIVE YOURSELF AND OTHERS TIME TO QUESTION
- SEE YOUR AMBIGUITY AS A RESOURCE TO INSPIRE OTHERS
- ASK QUESTIONS AND DON'T SETTLE EASILY
- REMEMBER THAT GOD IS UNCHANGING

DEALING WITH AMBIGUITY

- AMBIGUITY: "SOMETHING THAT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD IN TWO OR MORE POSSIBLE WAYS" (MERRIAM WEBSTER)
- AMBIGUITY TOLERANCE/COMPETENCY (FRENKEL - BRUNSWICK 1949): THE ABILITY TO DEAL WITH DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AND OPEN ENDINGS

A person is sitting on a wooden bench in a park. The scene is captured in a high-contrast, low-key style, with long, dark shadows cast across the paved ground. The person is silhouetted against the bright light, and their shadow is cast prominently in the foreground. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

SIT.

- DON'T RUSH THROUGH THIS PHASE, GIVE YOURSELF TIME
- THERE'S DEPTH AND STRENGTH GROWING IN THE WAITING

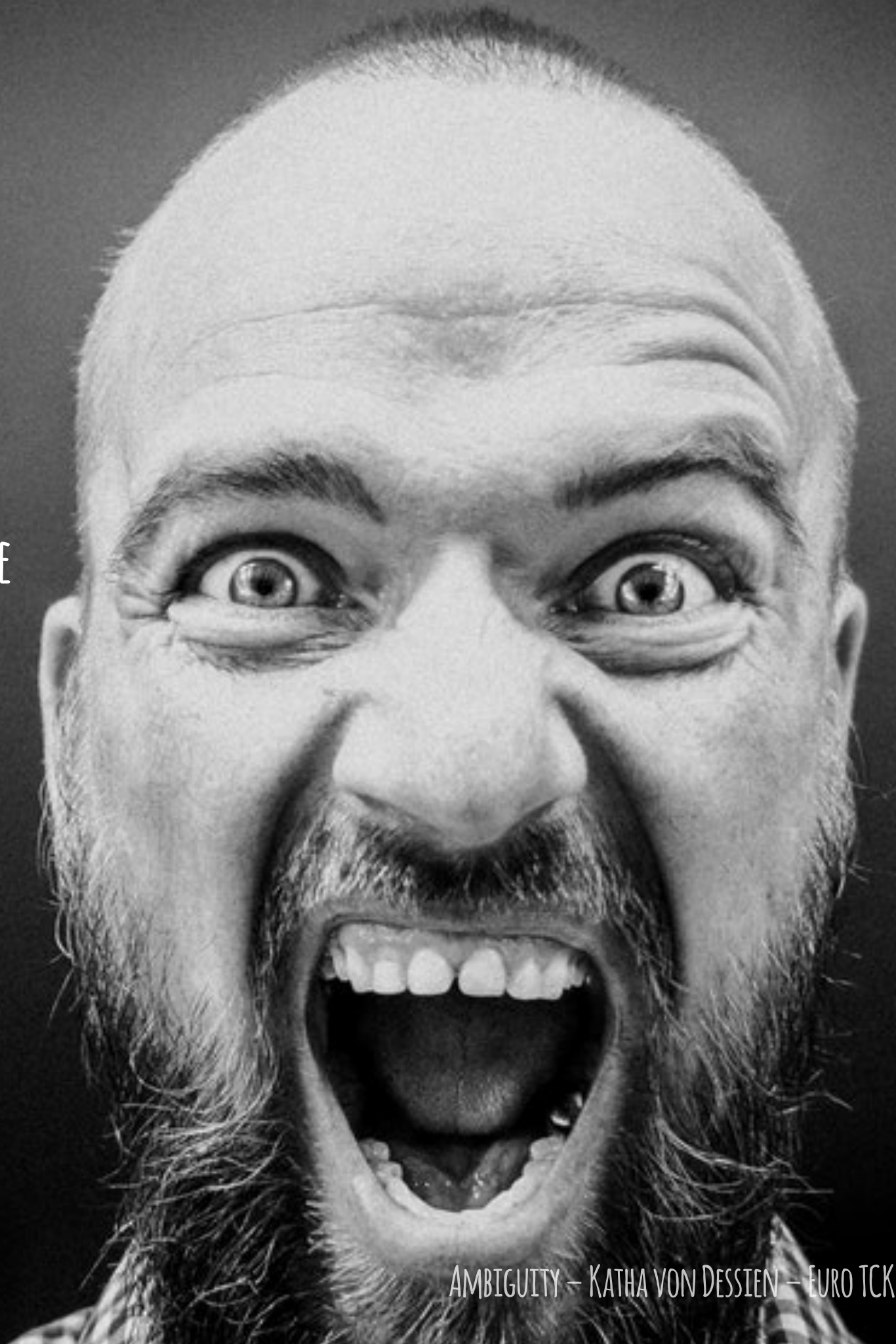
OBSERVE.

- IT'S ABOUT THE PROCESS,
NOT THE PRODUCT
- GET TO KNOW YOUR QUESTIONS AND
WHAT IS GOING ON INSIDE YOURSELF



BE HONEST.

- INVITE PEOPLE INTO YOUR QUESTIONS AND ASK FOR HELP
- BE HONEST WITH GOD, HE CAN HANDLE YOU WITH ALL YOUR EMOTIONS



I DON'T KNOW (YET).

- DON'T FOLLOW THE NEED TO EXPLAIN/
DEFEND YOURSELF, SOMEONE ELSE OR GOD
- GIVE YOURSELF TIME TO RESEARCH
AND LEARN
- "I HAVEN'T LEARNED THAT YET"

LEARN AND ASK QUESTIONS.

- GO OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE, LISTEN TO DIVERSE AND DIFFERENT VOICES
- STRETCH YOUR MIND AND THOUGHTS
- ACCEPT THAT THERE MIGHT BE TWO OR MORE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTION



USE THE GOLD IN YOUR HEART AND HANDS.

- TREAT AMBIGUITY LIKE A NEW CULTURE, YOU ALREADY KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE TRANSITIONS
- USE YOUR CCK SKILL SET: OBSERVE, ASK QUESTIONS, PIECE TOGETHER THE NEW WORLD BIT BY BIT
- HOLD ON TO UNCHANGING TRUTHS OF GOD

BE SURPRISED.

- ALLOW GOD TO SURPRISE YOU IN PLACES, PEOPLE AND SITUATIONS YOU DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO SHOW UP
- HE DOESN'T MAKE HIMSELF UNKNOWN OR HIDDEN, WE MIGHT JUST HAVE TO ADJUST OUR EXES TO FIND HIM IN DIFFERENT SETTINGS

TAKE AWAY

- WHERE DO YOU EXPERIENCE AMBIGUITY IN YOUR LIFE AT THE MOMENT?
- WHEN IS IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY OF SEVERAL MEANINGS?
- WHO DO YOU TALK TO ABOUT YOUR AMBIGUITY? WHO COULD YOU INVITE INTO YOUR QUESTIONS AND DOUBTS?
- WHO COULD YOU HELP TO DEAL WITH THEIR OWN AMBIGUITY?

RESOURCES

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- ADDIE ZIERMAN. WWW.ADDIEZIERMAN.COM
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- PICTURES: @TJUMP, @F7PHOTO, @KELLYSIKKEMA, @KFRED, @RUTHSON_ZIMMERMAN, @MATTHEWHENRY, @FANCYCRAVE, @BERKO, @APLACEFORCREATION, @NEONBRAND, @AARONBURDEN (UNSPLASH)