

DISCIPLE



SIX: MISSIONARY DISCIPLES
[GO TO ALL THE NATIONS]

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HOST
SHEET

No one is truly a disciple of Jesus Christ until they have worked to disciple others. Christianity is not a rule sheet, but a way of life. There are too many people in the world who do not know that God loves them unconditionally. This session will help you explore the notion of Missionary Discipleship coined by Pope Francis in his document “The Joy of the Gospel.”

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Bring your Bible to this session. You will need to read Matthew 28 and Romans 8

Talking Points:

Invitation means we are outside the church with outsiders. This implies that we leave the comfort of the church to go out into the world and call those in the world home to the church.

Experience of Christian community ought to be one of the main ways people encounter Christ, but maintenance mode parishes are often the least welcoming places.

Self-sacrificial generosity is Christ-like and undeniable in its power. So when have you inconvenienced yourself for the sake of the Gospel?

We want to give a primary love: I will show you love because you are worthy of it, not because of what I get out of it.

What does your home look like: a fortress or an Inn? Let your community group become the base for your Domestic Church

QUOTE: Joy of the Gospel, paragraph 262

Spirit-filled evangelizers are evangelizers who pray and work. Mystical notions without a solid social and missionary outreach are of no help to evangelization, nor are dissertations or social or pastoral practices which lack a spirituality which can change hearts. These unilateral and incomplete proposals only reach a few groups and prove incapable of radiating beyond them because they curtail the Gospel. What is needed is the ability to cultivate an interior space which can give a Christian meaning to commitment and activity.

Without prolonged moments of adoration, of prayerful encounter with the word, of sincere conversation with the Lord, our work easily becomes meaningless; we lose energy as a result of weariness and difficulties, and our fervor dies out. The Church urgently needs the deep breath of prayer, and to my great joy groups devoted to prayer and intercession, the prayerful reading of God’s word and the perpetual adoration of the Eucharist are growing at every level of ecclesial life.

Even so, “we must reject the temptation to offer a privatized and individualistic spirituality which ill accords with the demands of charity, to say nothing of the implications of the incarnation”. There is always the risk that some moments of prayer can become an excuse for not offering one’s life in mission; a privatized lifestyle can lead Christians to take refuge in some false forms of spirituality.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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Welcome

- Welcome guests as they enter your home
- Serve drinks (and/or food) at this time
- Fellowship Question: Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?

Talk

Lead a short prayer

Read the passage from Matthew 28:18-20

Turn on the Video: SESSION SIX // *Missionary Disciples*

Discussion

1. Does it scare you to think that you are called to be a missionary by virtue of your baptism?
2. What is the hardest part about sharing your faith with others? Have you ever had a success story sharing your faith with a friend? A stranger?
3. Name one person who you feel strongly that you need to invite to church. How can this group support you in making that invitation?
4. Mike mentioned the power of “self-sacrificial generosity” as the key to being a missionary. Why is this so powerful, especially when compared to people who wish to argue the faith?
5. Is your home more of an isolated fortress or is it more of an Inn? How can your home become more of the Domestic Church described in the teaching?
6. What is something the parish can do to equip you to be a missionary disciple?

Pursue

1. Read Aloud: Romans 8:26-30
2. Close with an Our Father, which is the prayer of the Kingdom

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