

# STAFF DISCUSSION JOURNAL

## *Going Deeper*

### PART 1

#### Scripture Reflection

As a staff, take a few moments to sit in total silence. Silence is a rare commodity and central to how God speaks with us.

Slowly read aloud this passage from Acts Chapter 2

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper[a]), and to prayer.

43 A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. 44 And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity[b]— 47 all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Now, take a few moments in silence and then read it one more time.

#### Questions For Group Discussion:

This scripture reveals the power of a Christian community living the Gospel in a radical way. How effective do you feel your school community is right now and revealing the Gospel to not just students but the wider community?

What do you feel are some of the challenges you face in terms of reaching and evangelising parents?



God's will for you can be seen, especially looking back on your life, as a series of vocations to which God calls you

Bill Dodds

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### PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote from The Religious Dimension of Education in Catholic School n.11

This rejection of faith can be especially true in those countries where education in general is secular or even imbued with atheism. The crisis seems to occur more frequently in places where there is high economic development and rapid social and cultural change. Sometimes the phenomenon is not recent; it is something that the parents went through, and they are now passing their own attitudes along to the new generation.

When this is the case, it is no longer a personal crisis, but one that has become religious and social. It has been called a "split between the Gospel and culture".

When you see the quote above how do you feel? Is it daunting? Do you feel hopeless or do you have a sense of opportunity What is your gut feeling when confronted with this phenomenon?

### STAFF PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We pray this week for the parents and families that make up our school community.

We ask for your grace and presence to speak through this community into their busy lives. We pray that each of us here in this room will deepen in our relationship with you and so come to reflect the joy of the Gospel in a way that draws parents to want to know more.

We pray for every family, marriage and parent. Sustain them Lord, guide them and bring them into a new and deeper relationship with you.

Amen



God, who is absolute power itself, doesn't want to trample on us, but kneels down before us so as to exalt us.

The mystery of the greatness of God is seen precisely in the fact that he can be small. He doesn't always have to take the highest place or the box seats.

Pope Benedict XVI