

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 2 Peter 3:9

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

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



"It is not hard to obey when we love the one whom we obey."

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Questions For Group Discussion:

This scripture reminds us of the patience of God in seeking us all to come into relationship with him. Where do you find it hardest to practice patience in your vocation? Is there a particular student or colleague you have given up on? Is there a student you feel will never change? Share your feelings on the practice of patience in your work.

Who is a person you can recall in your own life who never gave up on you? What did they see in you or what virtue did they have that allowed them to have patience with you? How could you apply this same patience with a student, parent or colleague?

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PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote from The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School n.17

Some young people are searching for a deeper understanding of their religion; as they reflect on the real meaning of life they begin to find answers to their questions in the Gospel. Others have already passed through the crisis of indifference and doubt, and are now ready to commit themselves - or recommit themselves - to a Christian way of life. These positive signs give us reason to hope that a sense of religion can develop in more of today's young people, and that it can be more deeply rooted in them.

Can you share a story of a student you know who has moved from being resistant to God, faith or deeper meaning in life to being more open?



“In order to be an image of God, the spirit must turn to what is eternal, hold it in spirit, keep it in memory, and by loving it, embrace it in the will.”

Edith Stein

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Lord,

Help us this week to grow in the virtue of patience.

Remind each of us that you have never given up on any of us and that we, in turn, are called to always hope for the transformation of each young person.

Give us perseverance and an optimistic heart no matter how distant any student may seem from you.

Help us to always be patient, consistent and hopeful as we seek to lead our young people home to you.

We ask this in your name.

Amen