

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 Isaiah Chapter 55

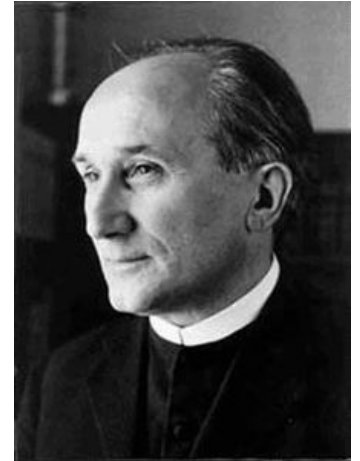
Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
7 Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.
9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

Questions For Group Discussion:

In your group share your thoughts about the way in which God's thoughts and what God values are so different to what we often value. What implications does it have for how you view the formation of your students?

Can you share an experience with your group about how you have noticed students either grappling with the bigger questions of life or being uncomfortable with the endless pursuit of wealth? Have you, in any way, witnessed their desire for 'something more?' What can be done to deepen this?



Truth must be sought for its own sake, its holy, divine greatness.”

Fr. Romano Guardini

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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.20

“..young people look at how modern civilization floods the world with material goods, beautiful and useful as these may be, and they wonder whether the purpose of life is really to possess many "things" or whether there may not be something far more valuable; which governs the whole process of formation of the students.

Does your school reinforce the subtle idea that career or academic success are the main goals of life? Is there a balance between temporal and spiritual concepts of 'success?" In what ways is your school community helping young people live that deep balance?

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Lord,

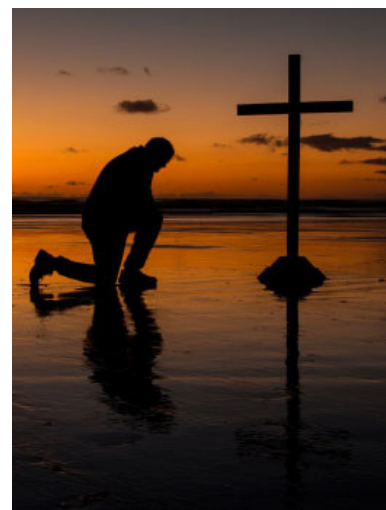
Thank you once again for the great privilege or walking with each of our students at this special time in their life.

We pray that we will be an instrument in your hands to help them ponder the deeper questions of life and what it means to be happy.

Holy Spirit, please guide us to be sensitive to those many teachable moments where we can help our students learn the truth about what really matters.

Enlighten our own hearts that we may also reflect upon what it means to value rightly the things of earth and seek always the things of heaven.

Amen



“While the world changes, the cross stands firm”

St. Bruno