

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 Romans Chapter 12

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

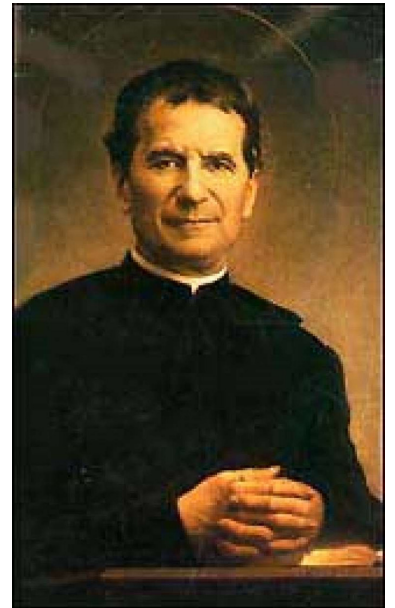
Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; [i] but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. 16 Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

Questions For Group Discussion:

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

What values or goals do you think your school truly holds for your students? Have academic outcomes become the main focus?

What do you think is possible to achieve as a school community in this area of Christian perfection for students? What aims, hopes or expectations can be worked on, communicated or held up as ideals?



“It is easier to become angry than to restrain oneself, and to threaten a boy than to persuade him. Yes, indeed, it is more fitting to be persistent in punishing our own impatience and pride than to correct the boys. We must be firm but kind, and be patient with them.”

St. John Bosco

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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.48

Students who are sensitive to the religious dimension of life realize that the will of God is found in the work and the human relationships of each day. They learn to follow the example of the Master, who spent his youth working and who did good to all

What can you do as a school community to deepen your students experience and appreciation of the religious dimension of life? How can you help them see the many moments of each day as part of how God is present in their lives? What are you already doing well? How can you increase this?

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

We pray this week for a deeper sense of the religious dimension of life both for ourselves and for our students.

Please help us to see each day as another step with you along the road toward the Christian perfection that you alone can grant.

Help us to see our work as part of this journey in our own lives. Help us, also, to guide our students to also see their work and relationships in our school as part of that same journey.

Jesus, grant us courage to step out with you along the path. Help us not to have a false humility that expects little of you and ourselves. Give us courageous hearts that seek to become the fullness of who you have made us and each of your students. to be.

In your name Jesus we pray.

Amen.



“The words of those who bring up children will be as milk if they be good, but as deadly poison if they be evil.”

Pope St. Gregory The Great