

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.

After some time in silence, have one person read the following scripture from Matthew Chapter 14

13 When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick. 15 As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food." 16 Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." 17 "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. 18 "Bring them here to me," he said. 19 And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. 20 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.



Replace what you don't know about the future with what you do know about God!

Christine Caine

Questions For Group Discussion:

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

This verse shows Jesus' concern for the material needs of people. How effectively does your school meet the material needs of students? What would you change?

The scripture passage above also points to a deeper meaning in the sense that while bread meets physical needs, Jesus is also the 'bread of life' who meets all spiritual needs. How effective is your school community at meeting the spiritual needs of young people? What are you doing well? What would you change?

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PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote:

The Catholic school sets out to be a school for the human person and of human persons. "The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching: this is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school".

The Catholic School On The Threshold Of The Third Millennium n.7

What do you feel is the deepest goal of your Catholic school?
Regardless of what may appear on mission statements, what goal do you feel your school is ultimately trying to achieve?



Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you.

Corrie Ten Boom

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

We pray this week for a deeper focus upon each precious, unique and unrepeatable human person in our school community.

Help us to meet their material and spiritual needs through the grace that you give us.

Give us a deep awareness of those who feel isolated, alone or unloved. Help us to be a community that focus on the real needs of real people.

Guide us to minister to them in the realities of each day.

In your name we pray...Amen