STAFF DISCUSSION Going Deeper

PART #1

Scripture Reflection

STEP ONE

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.

STEP TWO

After some time in silence, have one person read the following scripture aloud:

A Reading from the Gospel of John Chapter 16 v - 12 - 15

"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

STEP THREE

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

Ouestions for Discussion

QUESTION ONE

Truth is a difficult concept in the postmodern world. As a staff how do you feel about the idea of teaching 'the truth' to students?

QUESTION TWO

If we feel that Christianity is simply one truth among many possible 'truths' how does that impact our sense of mission?



"Let's ask ourselves: are we open to the Holy Spirit, do I pray to him to enlighten me, to make me more sensitive to the things of God? And this is a prayer we need to pray every day, every day."

POPE FRANCIS

STAFF DISCUSSION Going Deeper

PART #2

STEP ONE

Take a moment to read the following quote from the Church documents:

The Holy Spirit, then, as Jesus promises, guides us "into all truth" (Jn 16:13) he leads us not only to an encounter with Jesus, the fullness of Truth, but guides us "into" the Truth, that is, he helps us enter into a deeper communion with Jesus himself, gifting us knowledge of the things of God. We cannot achieve this on our own strengths. If God does not enlightens us interiorly, our being Christians will be superficial.

Pope Francis - General Audience May 15 2013

STEP TWO

What stands out for you in the quote above? What are the implications for your school if, as according to Pope Francis, 'We cannot achieve this on our own.."? How does your school currently allow people to encounter the Holy Spirit?

Closing Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations.

Through Christ Our Lord,

Amen.



"I would say it simply: No one can give that which he doesn't personally possess, which means we cannot transmit the Holy Spirit in an effective way, render the Spirit perceptible, if we ourselves aren't close to the Spirit."

POPE BENEDICT XVI