

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 Matthew Chapter 10 28 - 31

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THOSE WHO KILL THE BODY BUT CANNOT KILL THE SOUL. RATHER, BE AFRAID OF THE ONE WHO CAN DESTROY BOTH SOUL AND BODY IN HELL. 29 ARE NOT TWO SPARROWS SOLD FOR A PENNY? YET NOT ONE OF THEM WILL FALL TO THE GROUND OUTSIDE YOUR FATHER'S CARE. 30 AND EVEN THE VERY HAIRS OF YOUR HEAD ARE ALL NUMBERED. 31 SO DON'T BE AFRAID; YOU ARE WORTH MORE THAN MANY SPARROWS.

STEP THREE

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

Questions for Small Group Discussion

QUESTION ONE

What does this scripture suggest about God's attitude to the value and dignity of every human person? What are the implications for your school?

QUESTION TWO

How is your school currently doing well in valuing the dignity of each person? What could be done even better or changed completely?



"IN THE SILENCE OF THE HEART GOD SPEAKS. IF YOU FACE GOD IN PRAYER AND SILENCE, GOD WILL SPEAK TO YOU. THEN YOU WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOTHING. IT IS ONLY WHEN YOU REALIZE YOUR NOTHINGNESS, YOUR EMPTINESS, THAT GOD CAN FILL YOU WITH HIMSELF. SOULS OF PRAYER ARE SOULS OF GREAT SILENCE."

MOTHER TERESA.

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PART #2

STEP ONE

Take a moment to read the following quote from Lay Catholics in Schools - Witnesses to Faith (18)

"It (THE HUMAN PERSON CONCEPT) IS A CONCEPT WHICH INCLUDES A DEFENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT ALSO ATTRIBUTES TO THE HUMAN PERSON THE DIGNITY OF A CHILD OF GOD; IT ATTRIBUTES THE FULLEST LIBERTY, FREED FROM SIN ITSELF BY CHRIST, THE MOST EXALTED DESTINY, WHICH IS THE DEFINITIVE AND TOTAL POSSESSION OF GOD HIMSELF, THROUGH LOVE. IT ESTABLISHES THE STRICTEST POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP OF SOLIDARITY AMONG ALL PERSONS; THROUGH MUTUAL LOVE AND AN ECCLESIAL COMMUNITY. IT CALLS FOR THE FULLEST DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THAT IS HUMAN..."

STEP TWO

How is your school calling for the 'fullest development of all that is human' and how is it helping to build 'solidarity among all persons'?"



Closing Prayer

Dear Lord,

This week we pray for a deeper revelation in our hearts of the value and dignity of every human person in our community.

Help us to be mindful and present to the miracle that is very human life that we encounter today.

Help us, we pray to truly begin to see each person as your son or daughter made in your image.

We ask this in your Holy Name.

Amen.

"I HAVE BEEN DRIVEN MANY TIMES UPON MY KNEES BY THE OVERWHELMING CONVICTION THAT I HAD NO WHERE ELSE TO GO. MY OWN WISDOM AND THAT OF ALL ABOUT ME SEEMED INSUFFICIENT FOR THAT DAY."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN