

# 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 6 v.19 - 21*

*"DO NOT STORE UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES ON EARTH, WHERE MOTHS AND VERMIN DESTROY, AND WHERE THIEVES BREAK IN AND STEAL. BUT STORE UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES IN HEAVEN, WHERE MOTHS AND VERMIN DO NOT DESTROY, AND WHERE THIEVES DO NOT BREAK IN AND STEAL. FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.."*

#### 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 the concept of 'treasures' teach us about values? How do our deepest values direct our attitudes and behaviours and show us what matters to us?

#### QUESTION TWO

At this stage of its development as a community how does your school reflect the inner dynamic between values, attitudes and behaviours? If you look at the general tone of behaviour across the whole school community what is it telling you about individual people's attitudes and values? Is Jesus being given a chance to shape those values?



*"AIM AT HEAVEN AND YOU WILL GET EARTH THROWN IN. AIM AT EARTH AND YOU GET NEITHER."*

C.S. LEWIS

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### PART #2

#### STEP ONE

Take a moment to read the following quote from Lay Catholics In Schools - Witnesses to Faith.

*"IDEALLY, ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOUR WILL GRADUALLY BE MOTIVATED BY, AND FLOW OUT OF, THE INTERIOR FAITH OF THE INDIVIDUAL STUDENT."*

#### STEP TWO - GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTION

If the statement above is true then perhaps the most powerful thing we could do as staff to create a harmonious and positive school culture would be to focus more upon the faith formation and evangelization of students. What could we try that would give students a deeper and more regular encounter with Jesus so that this process could unfold?

### Closing Prayer

Dear Jesus,

We pray this week that you would keep us mindful of the beautiful relationship between time spent with you encountering your values and how that experience will shape our attitudes and behaviours.

We pray also that we would be blessed with the grace over time to teach this to our students through courageous and forthright teaching but also through the lived example of your lives.

Let us not teach what we have not lived but rather draw us personally into an encounter with you so that we cannot keep silent and seek to share you with each student we serve.

We ask this in your Holy name.

Amen



*"GOD DOES NOT ASK OF US THE PERFECTION OF TOMORROW, NOR EVEN OF TONIGHT, BUT ONLY OF THE PRESENT MOMENT."*

ST. MADELINE SOPHIE BARAT