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 the Book of Jeremiah Chapter 29: 11 - 14

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

I will be found by you," declares the Lord."

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

Questions For Group Discussion:

What would it feel like to truly seek Jesus with all our hearts? What really stops us? What small step could we take to begin anew to seek Him.

How important is 'permanent formation' in our school? Is it a priority? Where does it rank in relationship to the formation of professional skills? Is the balance right? What could we attempt or try to make it more important?



"I will go anywhere and do anything in order to communicate the love of Jesus to those who do not know Him or have forgotten Him."

St. Francis Cabrini

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PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote:

"Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful.

Pope Francis May 10 2014

How effective is your school right now in developing a deep sense in students of what is true, good and beautiful? How are these 'transcendentals' expressed, lived or made prominent? What more could be done? How present are they for staff?



"Quietly to trust in God is better than trying to safeguard material interests: I learned that by bitter experience."

St. Emily de Vialar

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We pray this week for the grace to reflect deeply upon the need for 'permanent formation'.

In a world of changes we need the anchor for our souls that is you and your promise to never leave us or forsake us.

Even the desire to seek you is itself a gift from you. Give us that gift, we pray, in a new and abundant way. Give each person in this room a hunger to seek you more deeply.

Help us all to find the way that leads to a new and deeper reliance upon you in each moment of this day.

Let us seek you while you are still to be found.

Amen