

ELPIS

Creating Leaders in the Faith Manual



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor



ELPIS Team

Program Director: Miguel Chavez, MA, MBA

Manual Developer: Rachel Bell

Videographer: John Michael Bernal

PowerPoint Developer and Research: Nancy Shumar

Program Editor: Erin Maroon, MBA

Marketing: Michaela Casperd

Artwork: Mary Modena



A special thanks to the speakers who presented for this project:

Justin Huyck, MA

Pastoral Associate for Adult Faith Formation at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Canton, Ohio; Co-Director of Music and Liturgy at Pyramid Lake, a summer youth leadership experience in New York

Dr. Andrew Kim, PhD

Assistant Professor of Theology at Walsh University

Greg Wasinski

Catholic radio personality and national speaker, president of “Let Me Be” Ministries

Brooke Taylor

Former co-host, “Family Friendly Morning Show,” 95.5 The Fish

Elizabeth Montgomery, MA

Program Coordinator for Christian Leadership at the University of Dayton; certified Catholic youth minister

Fr. Nathan Cromly, CSJ

Catholic priest of the Congregation of St. John; founder, Eagle Eye Ministries

Dr. Donald Wallenfang, PhD

Assistant Professor of Theology at Walsh University

John Johnson, MA

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Folsom, Calif.; President of Petros, LLC, a Catholic tech company dedicated to the new evangelization



Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	9
2. How to use This Manual.....	11
3. Made for the Other	13
The Power of Influence.....	15
Different Styles of Leading.....	17
Servant Leadership.....	20
4. Personal Faith to Lead.....	25
Developing Personal Faith.....	27
Living a Faith-filled Life.....	29
Saints as an Example of Faith.....	31
5. Made For Holiness.....	35
Following Our Calling.....	37
Leadership through Prayer.....	39
Types of Prayer.....	41
6. Made to Witness.....	47
Christ-like Leadership.....	49
Witnesses of God.....	51
Technology and Leadership.....	53
7. Made to Hope.....	57
Surrendering to God.....	59
The Power of Love.....	61
People of Hope.....	64
8. Supplemental Materials.....	67

My name is Miguel Chavez, and I serve as the Director of Campus Ministry at Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio. It is apparent to me after working with young adults at the collegiate level for the past 12 years how critical their enthusiasm and excitement are for our Church today. Forming young men and women of faith as leaders in our community is vital in efforts of evangelization! I am pleased to introduce the ELPIS leadership program through the sponsorship of the Our Sunday Visitor Institute and Walsh University. This program flowed from the efforts of our Campus Ministry team, who, in the 2015-2016 academic year, organized a series of speaker presentations and retreats for young men and women throughout the region.

The word *ELPIS* is a Greek word meaning *Hope*. It also serves as an acronym for what we hope to accomplish with the formation of our young adults:

Empower young people as **L**eaders in faith, who are **P**rayerfully driven with **I**magination and creativity to **S**erve in our world as Church!

Student artist Mary Modena painted an image called **“The Hands of Hope,”** which symbolized our whole program.



In the painting, one hand desperately reaches to another. The outstretched hand from the top symbolizes the hand of God, and the creases in it spell the Greek word ELPIS. We challenge the participants of our program to serve as *hands of hope* in the Church today, reaching out to those in need and leading others to Christ by example. In the Church, young people on fire for faith reveal a prevailing hope of God’s transformative love and make Christ known in their lives.

The recorded talks, accompanying manual and additional resources are the fruit of much labor. We pray you might find this material useful in the formation of your young people. We encourage you to go through the manual and see how the themes of each presentation, activity and reflection may assist you in forming young men and women of faith. We are deeply grateful to the Our Sunday Visitor Institute for all their support with our endeavors. For further copies of any material or prints of “The Hands of Hope,” please visit www.walsh.edu/elpis God bless you always!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miguel Chavez".

Miguel Chavez, MA, MBA
Director of Campus Ministry, Walsh University

How to Use This Manual

The material in this program focuses on leadership development in faith communities. It is meant to enhance the work you already do in forming young men and women.

The manual is arranged into five different parts, each covering different aspects of leadership in a faith setting. In the back of the manual, a Supplemental Materials Section consists of handouts to accompany the activities and discussions.

Recordings of ELPIS presentations are available from either the supplied DVD or at www.walsh.edu/elpis. The accompanying PowerPoint may be used to present the material in this manual in a slideshow format.

Below is an index of topics discussed in the video presentations.

1. Made for the Other (Justin Huyck, MA)	
a. LeBron video discussion	16
2. Personal Faith to Lead (Dr. Andrew Kim, PhD)	
a. Titles	27
b. A Good Infection	27
c. Mustard Seed/Gradations	27-28
d. Stages/Indifference	29-30
3. Made for Holiness (Elizabeth Montgomery, MA)	
a. Universal Call to Holiness	37
b. Happiness versus Joy	39
c. Thomistic Spirituality	41
d. Augustinian Spirituality	41
e. Franciscan Spirituality	42
f. Ignatian Spirituality	42
4. Made to Witness (Greg Wasinski)	
a. Characteristics of Jesus	49
b. Our Four Responsibilities	51
c. Holiness and “Whole”-iness	51
d. What do you have to offer?	52
e. Safety Nets	52
f. Challenging and Joyful Moments	52
5. Made to Hope	
a. Be Who You're Called to Be (Brooke Taylor)	61
b. Lead with Love (Dr. Donald Wallenfang, PhD)	61
c. Discovering Peace (Fr. Nathan Cromly, CSJ)	64

Part 1

Made for the Other



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

The Power of Influence

Made for the Other

“Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.”

1 Timothy 4:12

Introduction:

Influence is the lasting impression one person leaves on another. Without even realizing it, we all have some effect on a person, whether it is good or bad. As Christian leaders, we are called to be a positive light in the world and use that positive influence to show Christ to others.

Why is influence important?:

To understand the importance of influence, and by extension, leadership, we need to answer three questions: What is leadership about? Why does it matter? How do leaders lead?

The answer to the first question is simple. Leadership is about a mission. Although this is a somewhat broad topic, each leader needs something to strive toward—an end goal to achieve. As Christians, we have been commissioned with a specific mission, which is described in *The Joy of the Gospel* by Pope Francis. In it, he says, “The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.” Our mission as Christians is to help one another encounter Christ and develop a personal relationship with Him. Matthew 28:19 says, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” This is the moment in which the disciples are commissioned as leaders and are called to take up the mission. Although Christ is specifically speaking to the disciples at this moment, His words endure through the years and apply to us today.

Every leader accomplishes his or her mission through the vision that he or she has. The terms ‘mission’ and ‘vision’ are often used interchangeably, but there is a distinct difference. Mission is *what* we are trying to accomplish while vision more specifically involves *how* we will do to accomplish our goals. Each leader has his or her own vision, which is unique. As Christians, our vision may vary depending on our leadership style and the way we strive to bring others to Christ.

Examples of influence

We are surrounded by influential leaders who inspire us in many different ways and motivate us to respond and take action. LeBron James is a prime example of a leader in today’s secular world. He is well-known not

The Power of Influence

only for his basketball prowess, but for his ability to motivate people both on and off the court. To begin the 2014 NBA basketball season, Nike released a video about James' widespread influence and his ability to inspire people to rise up. The video showed James' positive influence in his community. We should have that same positive influence, inspiring people to step up and be a part of our faith.



Activity

Leadership Circle

Learning objectives:

Through this activity, participants will learn how one person's influence/leadership can affect the group as a whole.

Materials:

Chairs and a group of people

Instructions:

Have everyone sit in a circle. Choose one person who will eventually guess the leader and send that person out of the room. Then choose another person who will lead the group. This person will initiate simple gestures or movements such as clapping, foot tapping, waving, etc. When the leader does a certain motion repeatedly, the rest of the group follows suit. Once the leader is chosen, he will start a certain movement and the first person chosen will re-enter the room. He must then guess who the leader is by observing the group of people and trying to identify who is initiating the changes.



Discussion

LeBron James "Together" Video:

As a group, watch LeBron James' "Together" video. The video can be found on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/n6S1JoCSVNU>) or on the accompanying PowerPoint. After watching the video together, discuss the following questions as a group. If the group is large enough, you can break off into small groups to discuss and then come together as a whole afterward. There is a handout available in the Supplemental Materials section on page 68.

Questions:

1. What group is LeBron James trying to lead? What is his mission for this group?
2. What is their vision? How will they accomplish their mission?
3. How does James lead?
4. How is James' influence seen in this video?

Different Styles of Leading

Made for the Other

“For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another.”

Romans 12:4-5

Introduction:

Pope Francis is well-known for using Twitter to send inspirational messages to people across the world. One of his tweets during World Youth Day 2013 proclaimed, “Dear young people, be true ‘athletes of Christ’! Play on His team! #Rio2013 #JMJ.” This analogy comparing the Church to a sports team is helpful in understanding our roles as leaders. Each member of a team is very important and helps contribute to the mission of the team in different ways. Some team members are good at motivating the team, other members lead well by example. In the same way, each member of the Church has his or her own vision or leadership style, and every type of leader is equally important.

Types of Leadership:

In Justin Huyck’s presentation on leadership, he references theologian Kathleen Cahalan, who describes a minister as being a “leader of disciples.” We are called to lead others through Christ, and everything we do should point people toward Him. The way we bring people to Christ can be done in many different ways, and everyone has his own vision on how he will lead others to Christ. There are six general visions a leader can have.

1. **Teaching:** This is more than just learning, it’s about using this information to bring others to Christ. Obvious examples of these leaders are teachers and professors who have the ability to show Christ to others by the way they teach, as well as the content they teach.
2. **Preaching:** This is something Pope Francis emphasized in his *Joy of the Gospel*. He describes evangelization as “preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected Him.” He reminds his audience that when we preach, we need to reach out to everybody and that we have “a duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone.” Preaching is more than an academic study of the Gospels or just knowing the facts. It is using this knowledge to help your audience experience Jesus and help them relate to bible stories so they recognize their part in this faith. Typically, preachers are associated with priests and deacons who preach the Gospel during the homily.
3. **Worship, Ritual, and Music:** This vision most specifically applies to the Mass, but it can also apply to praise and worship, adoration or any other form of communal or devotional prayer. Those with this vision strive

Different Styles of Leading

to connect others to Jesus through prayer and music. This is done by having good readers and engaging music that encourages people to participate.

4. Pastoral Care: This is about supporting one another emotionally and spiritually. A common example of pastoral care is caring for the sick. It is more than just helping them physically, it includes praying with them and supporting them. By doing this, we can help bring others to see Christ's love and mercy.

5. Service, Charity, and Justice: Through this type of leadership, people imitate Christ by actively helping those in need, whether they be hungry, homeless, etc. In this vision, Christ is not only visible to those who are being helped through these actions, but those providing the service also have the opportunity to see Christ in others. Jesus says in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Pope Francis says we should be "shepherds living with the smell of the sheep." As leaders, it is important to be one with those we are serving, actively helping them.

6. Organizing and Leadership: This vision is just as important as other visions because it focuses on the details and bringing all parts of a mission, task or organization together. Through this vision, all the other types of leadership are brought together. For any type of vision to run smoothly, there needs to be order. When a vision is not completely thought out, it can fall apart quickly and lose effectiveness, but when that same vision is carefully planned and executed, it can bear much fruit.

Many Visions, One Mission:

"As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ...If a foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body,' it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. Or if an ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body,' it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body."

1 Corinthians 12:12,15-20

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul acknowledges there are many different types of people. God made us all unique for a reason. This should not be a divisive factor but should bring us closer to each other as Christians because we are all united together under Christ. If we focus on these differences, the Church cannot carry out its mission properly.

We know the Church is called to lead others to Christ, but if everyone does this in the same way, we would not be effective. As St. Paul writes, if the body were all one part, how would it function effectively? Instead, we need to bring our own unique qualities to our leadership styles. When everybody contributes something differently, we become the body that was talked about in this passage: unique and diverse, but functioning

Different Styles of Leading

as one. A fully functioning body that accepts its differences is more effective than a body that competes against itself. In the same way, the Church's mission is more effective when we work together instead of fighting to be the star or the most important person.



Activity

Leadership Quiz:

Learning Objective:

By taking this quiz, participants will gain a greater understanding of their leadership style and the various ways in which they may be best suited to lead.

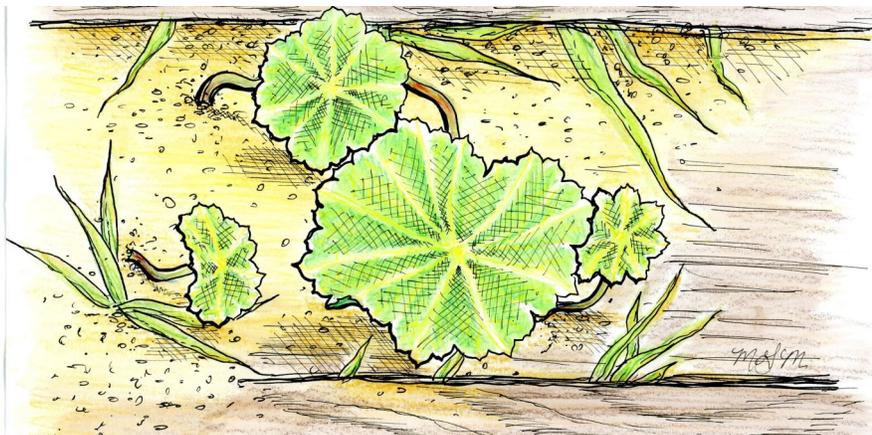
Materials:

A handout for the leadership quiz is available in the Supplemental Materials section on page 69.

Instructions:

Have participants take the leadership quiz. Using a 1 through 5 scale, participants should rank how true that statement relates to each individual's own life. After scoring each statement, participants will then follow the instructions provided to tally the scores and receive their results. The areas with the highest scores mean those are the leadership styles most suited for that individual. Some participants may have several areas where the scores are very close together, meaning they are suited for an array of leadership styles, while others may only have one score that is significantly higher than the others, meaning they are more suited toward a specific leadership style.

After participants finish taking the quiz and adding their scores, have them branch off into groups based on their highest score. If a student has two or more categories as their highest score, encourage them to pick just one and join that group. Once they are in their groups, prompt the students to talk about their results and their thoughts on them. Do they agree with their results? Why or why not? Is there something that stood out to them while taking the quiz? How can they use their leadership styles to carry out their vision?



Servant Leadership

Made for the Other

“In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Acts 20:35

Introduction:

We have been commissioned by God to be leaders in faith. This does not mean we can boss people around and make them do things while we sit in the comfort of our own homes. It actually means we should be serving and helping the people around us. We are not above others, but equal, since we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

Servant Leadership:

During his time on Earth, Christ established a legacy of servant leadership through his words and actions. This leadership is not a commanding, manipulative leadership, but one based on love and compassion for the world. In his article “Why Servant Leadership? Its Uniqueness And Principles In The Life Of Jesus,” author Young Soo Chung defines a leader as “a servant who uses his or her credibility and capabilities to influence people in a particular context to pursue their God-given right.” The purpose of servant leadership aligns with the mission of the Church: to help people experience Christ.

Choo also points out Jesus taught that greatness is not found through great power or a great position, rather it is found in love. In order to truly be a servant leader, we need to humble ourselves and work with and among the people. Leadership based among the people helps open communication and allows for the service and help to be more loving and personal. Mother Teresa, a saint of the Church who also received a degree from Walsh University in 1983, is a prime example of servant leadership. During her ministry in Calcutta, India, Mother Teresa cared for the poor and the sick, always taking care of their needs before she took care of her own.

Ultimately, this servant leadership is based upon the example of Jesus. His servant leadership is shown in the Gospels through the way He cared for others with compassion and love and always placed others ahead of Himself. A servant leader tries to imitate and truly bring the joy of Christ to others through loving and giving actions. This leadership is not reserved for just a few special people, rather, Christ is calling every single one of us to be a servant leader. We do not need a specific job or mission to serve others and should apply servant leadership to all of our visions by using the gifts and talents God gave us.

Servant Leadership

Setting the Example:

As leaders in Christ, we are expected to be loving and caring toward everyone around us. This means being sensitive to the wants and needs of others, being humble and putting others first, respecting the dignity of the human person, and taking care of others. While this may sound exhausting, servant leadership is a very rewarding practice.

Matthew 25:40 says, “And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’” When we serve others, we are also serving and helping Christ. Through little (and big) acts of service, we begin to recognize the face of God in each and every person we serve. Recognizing that God is present and cares for every single person He ever created helps us grow closer, not just to the people we serve, but to God, too.

Small Acts of Great Love:

One example of the power of small deeds is Josh Yandt, whose story was shared on social media in 2014. After his father passed away in 2011, Yandt decided he needed to make some changes. He wanted to finally make a stand against school bullies who had given him trouble all his life, but in a way that nobody expected: He started opening the door for them.

“The first few weeks when I started doing it, they were kind of shocked,” he explains. “Not many people hold doors, right? But after that, people started to open up to me. Opening a door is more than a physical act, it’s about putting yourself out there, getting to know people, making them feel comfortable, making them feel welcome. Opening doors gives people hope that people care.”

Yandt’s actions were so contrary to what his bullies expected, they began to leave him alone. More than that, they began to respect him. Yandt went from a bullied, shy boy to being known by everyone in school, even if the only interaction some students had with him was to say, “Thanks Josh,” as they walked through the door.

By his senior year, Yandt was so well-known that he was voted prom king. His fellow students presented him with a full-size door, covered in messages and signatures, as a sign of their gratitude.

Yandt could have fought his bullies or become a bully himself, but instead, he turned the tables on his bullies and showed them love instead. Yandt did not make a scene, he did not ask for attention, he did not say a word. He simply opened a door.



Activity

Murmel, Murmel, Murmel:

Learning Objective:

The purpose of this activity is to help participants recognize and identify the ways a leader can find joy in a busy world.

Servant Leadership

Materials:

The book is available on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/E0MDEMQFI0k>) and can also be found on the accompanying PowerPoint. A handout is available on page 71 of the Supplemental Materials section.

Directions:

As a group, read and/or watch the book *Murmel, Murmel, Murmel*. Then discuss the following questions:

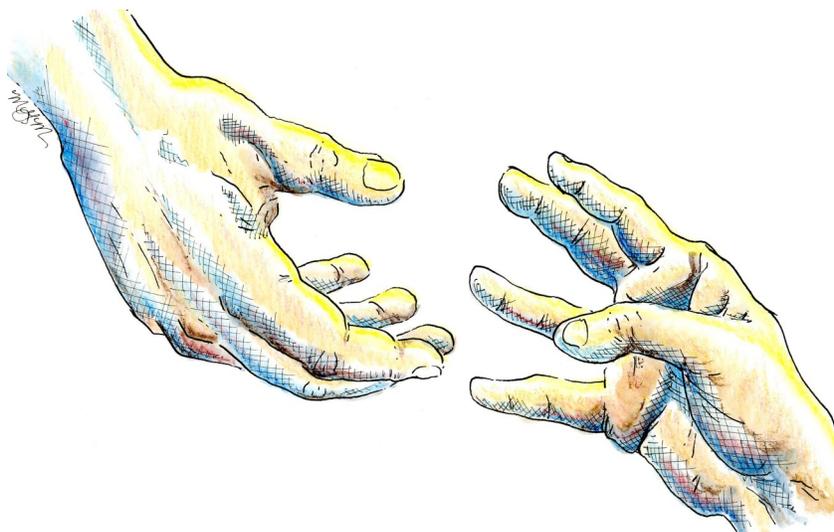
1. How is this story joyful? Who found joy? Who did not?
2. Identify a leader who helped you find joy in life. What did he or she do?
3. Identify a particular item that helps you remember that encounter.
4. A large part of servant leadership is finding joy in serving. How does the story model this aspect of servant leadership?



Discussion

This discussion is used to inspire participants to think of the different qualities a leader possesses. A handout for this discussion can be found on page 72. Break the participants into several different small groups. Have them start by talking about different leaders and people who inspire them. Once everyone has mentioned some people who are inspirational, have them mention why they feel that way. What traits do those people possess that make them inspirational? Are they loving? Unafraid to speak their mind? Caring? What other qualities might this person possess?

After finishing the small group discussions, have everyone get back together as a group and ask them to share some of what they discussed in their small groups. What qualities stood out to them? Are there certain qualities that are more admirable than others? What common characteristics can we learn from them?



Resources

Made for the Other

Books:

The Joy of the Gospel, *Evangelii Gaudium* . Pope Francis. [Vatican City]: November 24, 2013. http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium.html

Blanchard, Kenneth H., and Phil Hodges. *Lead like Jesus: Lessons for Everyone from the Greatest Leadership Role Model of All Time*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

Gaitley, Michael E. *You Did It to Me: A Practical Guide to Mercy in Action*. Marian Press, 2014.

Munsch, Robert N., 1945- and Michael, Martchenko, *Murmel, Murmel, Murmel*. Toronto ; New York : Buffalo, NY: Annick Press; Distributed in the USA by Firefly Books, 1982.

Phelps, Owen, and Kenneth H. Blanchard. *The Catholic Vision for Leading like Jesus: Introducing S³ Leadership: Servant, Steward, Shepherd*. Our Sunday Visitor.



Articles:

Chung, Young Soo. "Why Servant Leadership? Its Uniqueness And Principles In The Life Of Jesus." *Journal Of Asia Adventist Seminary* 14.2 (2011): 159-170.

"Five Leadership Lessons from the Bible." Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Story/TabId/2672/ArtMID/13567/ArticleID/3436/Five-Leadership-Lessons-from-the-Bible.aspx>.

"Five Steps to Becoming an Intentional Disciple." Accessed June 11, 2016. <https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Story/TabId/2672/ArtMID/13567/ArticleID/15855/5-steps-to-becoming-an-intentional-disciple.aspx>.

"Mother Teresa: A Life to Live By - Editorial|September 2004 Issue of St. Anthony Messenger Magazine Online." *St. Anthony Messenger*. Accessed June 11, 2016. <https://www.americancatholic.org/Messenger/Sep2004/Editorial.asp>.

Resane, K. Thomas. "Leadership For The Church: The Shepherd Model." *Hervormde Teologiese Studies* 70.1 (2014): 1-6.

Part 2

Personal Faith to Lead



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

Developing Personal Faith

Personal Faith to Lead

“He proposed another parable to them. ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”

Matthew 13:31-32

Introduction:

Many wonderful examples of Christian leaders have different titles, such as priest, director of religious education, campus minister, etc. While these titles are often associated with leadership, it does not mean only these people are qualified to talk about our faith or possess the characteristics and qualities needed to be a leader in faith. In fact, there are many leaders who did not possess a fancy title but were still very influential. One example is the famous novelist C.S. Lewis, who is well-known for incorporating his faith into his works and bringing many people to Christ as a result. Christian leadership should be less about having special titles and more focused on spreading the faith.

A “Good Infection”:

In his book *Mere Christianity*, Lewis describes faith as “a good infection.” This comparison depicts faith as similar to disease because it spreads through contact with other people. When one person receives this faith, she passes it to another person, and that new person also passes it on to more people. Unlike a disease, which can be looked at as negative and unwanted, faith is good, and we want to spread it.

A contagious faith is not a faith that is forced on others. Making people attend church or forcing them to participate in prayer or other faith events when they are not open to it is not an effective means of evangelization and portrays Christianity negatively. To spread the faith, we need to fully live it with joy and love. When others can visibly see Christianity in others, they become more open to encountering faith. This is how we are to lead others.

Personal Faith:

A strong faith-filled life does not come automatically. In the Gospels, Jesus compares our faith to a mustard seed. This seed starts out extremely small, but when it is planted and watered, the seed starts to grow.

Personal Faith to Lead

The more the planter takes care of and waters the seed, the more this plant will grow. We need to work on growing and cultivating our faith so it can slowly become stronger and play a bigger role in our own lives.

As we grow in faith, we begin to realize how important faith truly is and thirst for more. Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. Just like grapes cannot survive on a branch if they are not receiving nourishment from the vine, we cannot truly live and thrive unless we are connected to Jesus Christ.



Activity

Personal Meditation

Learning Objectives:

The goal of this activity is to help participants step back and reflect on their own faith and the role it plays in their life.

Materials:

The handout for this activity is located in the Supplemental Materials section on page 73.

Directions:

Have participants take some time and journal their thoughts on the following reflection questions:

1. What role does faith currently play in my life? Do I use my faith in everyday situations or do I cast it aside and forget about it?
2. How is my faith like a mustard seed? Has it grown or should I take more to cultivate my faith?
3. What do I do to help my faith life thrive? Are there more things I could do to help cultivate my faith (reading the bible, praying a daily rosary, going to daily Mass, etc.)?
4. Is my faith visible to others? Do I bring others to Christ through my visible witness? Can my faith be considered a “good infection”?

Once participants are done meditating and journaling, invite them to share any of their thoughts if they so desire.

Living a Faith-filled Life

Personal Faith to Lead

“Jesus said to him, ‘Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.’”

John 20:29

Introduction:

Living a faith-filled life is not just a fairytale but something we should strive to do every day. However, it can be difficult to live out, especially in a world with such differing opinions on the truth. We all have a desire to find the truth, but actively finding it can seem impossible in a world full of different opinions. In order to find the truth, we need to disconnect from the world and focus on God.

Growing in Faith:

It is important to realize that faith is a relationship with God. It can be frustrating at times to struggle with our faith and not have a strong relationship with God, but growing in faith is a slow process that takes place over time. To begin building a strong relationship, we need to start with little steps such as praying each day, reading the bible and going to Mass. These things help build our faith and sustain us during the difficult moments of our lives.

Stages of Faith:

Belief in God does not always come naturally. To build a relationship with God, there are certain stages people go through. In his talk on faith, Dr. Andrew Kim describes these different stages of belief. He says it is important as leaders to understand these different stages because it affects how we interact with and help those around us. For example, a person who does not believe in God will react differently to prayer than a person who has a strong faith life.

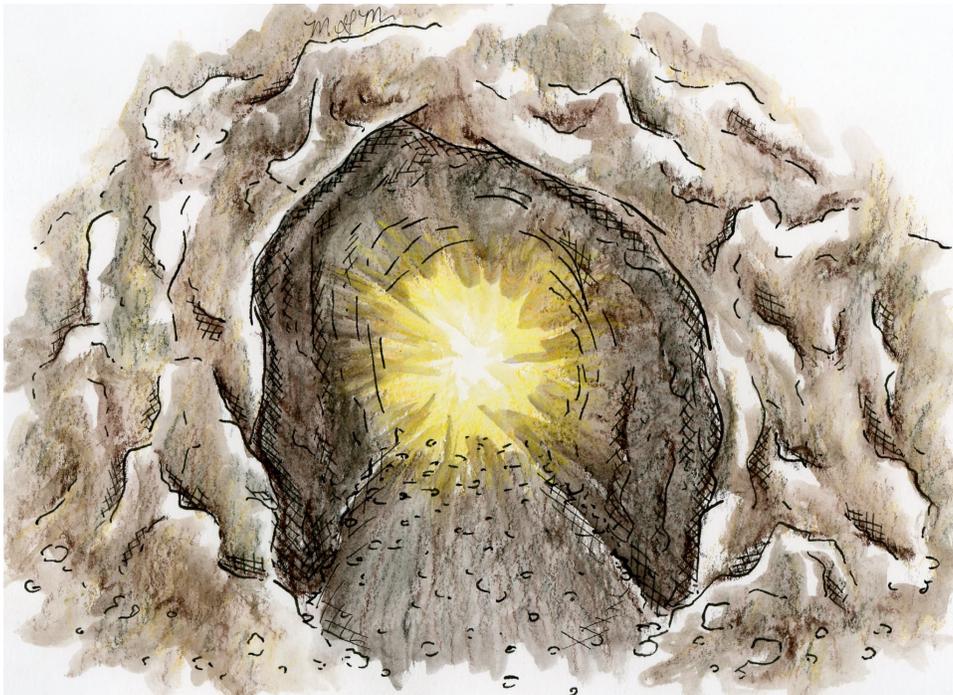
The first stage is indifference. Those who are indifferent do not care about God. They do not care if He exists, and they do not care about finding the truth. They are apathetic when it comes to faith and do not understand how it affects them. As leaders, this is most difficult stage to encounter, because those in this stage are resistant to evangelization, and it can become impossible to show them the truth.

After indifference comes disbelief. Those in this stage recognize it is important to find truth and begin to search for it. They realize it's impossible to not care forever and know eventually they will have to choose a world view or a world view will choose them. They care about their faith (or their nonfaith), but they have not yet found the truth in Catholicism. It is our job as leaders to help direct them to the Catholic Church.

Personal Faith to Lead

After disbelief comes belief. There are two different ways a person can go from disbelief to belief. First, the change can come from a theological standpoint where a person finds the truth of the Catholic faith through the teachings of the Church and of the saints. The other way people make the transition is through improving their relationship with God. In some way, that relationship was broken and they needed to mend it before accepting God into their lives. Kim used his own life as an example of this transition. As a young adult, challenges he encountered tested his trust in God. He could not believe in God and have faith until he took the time to mend his relationship with God.

As leaders in faith, we are believers who have come to know and accept God. However, this does not mean our own faith is perfect. It is important to remember we also need to work on continually strengthening and improving our own faith so we can also help others grow in their faith. When have a strong relationship with God, it becomes easier to share that relationship with those around us.



Saints as an Example of Faith

Personal Faith to Lead

“He said to them, ‘Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.’”

Matthew 4:19

Introduction:

Growing and developing personal faith is not an easy task, and it is not always simple. In many cases, the development of faith is a rocky battle with many highs and lows. It can be easy to despair and give up because the journey seems too difficult, but there are many, many people who have already fought this battle and experienced the highs and lows. They know what the journey is like, and their stories exist today to inspire us to continue on and keep fighting. These people are known as saints.

Examples of Faith:

Oscar Wilde is credited with the quote, “Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future.” Besides the Immaculate Mary, there is not a saint on Earth who has not experienced temptation or sinned. The saints understand what it is like to struggle. That is why they are great examples for us and a great source of inspiration. They experienced the highs and lows of life and overcame them to be successful leaders. Because every saint has overcome different obstacles, every person can find a story to inspire and motivate them.

St. Andre Bessette:

When St. Andre first tried to join the Holy Cross Brothers, no one thought he would be amount to much, let alone become a saint. Because of chronic stomach pains, St. Andre was unable to hold a job and was left rather weak. Although the brothers did not want him to join their order, he appealed to a bishop, who told the brothers he had to remain. He was assigned to be the doorman at a local college. Although this was a simple, unglamorous job, Andre did not complain and fully embraced his humble task.

In 1904, he asked for permission to build a chapel to honor St. Joseph. The Archbishop of Montreal told Andre he would have to fund it himself. Using money he collected through donations and cutting hair, St. Andre used these few hundred dollars to build a small wooden building. Several years later, he went to the bishop again, asking for permission to build a bigger building. With permission granted, he expanded, making the chapel guest-friendly. Some miracles of healing even occurred there. St. Andre attributed the growing success of the chapel to St. Joseph and started to build a basilica. He passed away at the age of 90, not long before his basilica was completed.

Personal Faith to Lead

Andre may not have been the smartest man, nor the strongest man, yet he found a way to express his love for his faith. Although others did not recognize the potential he had, God had great plans for Andre and trusted him to carry them out. Through his chapel, he was able to inspire many people to grow in their faith. St. Andre may have been a simple doorman, but that did not stop him from following God's plan.

St. Peter:

At the time he was called by Christ, Simon Peter was a simple fisherman. He gave up his life to follow Jesus, becoming a "fisher of man." During his time with Christ, Peter was not the brightest man and made his fair share of mistakes. There are several times in the Gospels when Peter made mistakes and was scolded or rebuked by Christ. An example of this is during the Last Supper in Matthew 26:33-34 when Peter announces he would never deny Jesus. Christ corrects him and predicts that he will be denied three times before the cock crowed. Although Peter had his fair share of imperfections, God still had a plan for him and called him to be the first pope of the Church.

After being commissioned by Christ, Peter went out into the world, preached the gospel to many different people and became the leader of all the apostles. Just because he was called by Christ to this great position does not mean that Peter became perfect. Like everyone else, he made mistakes and was even rebuked by Paul in Galatians 2:11-21 for becoming prideful and hypocritical in his treatment of the Gentiles. But because Peter relied on God and followed His will, he could overcome his struggles and grow in his faith, becoming a great leader.



Discussion:

Using the following questions as a prompt, discuss the importance of the saints as examples of faith and the impact they can have in our lives. This material can be found on a handout on page 75.

1. Is there any saint who stands out to you that was an exemplary leader in some way?
2. What saint's story is the most inspirational to you? Why?
3. We all have the potential to be saints. In what ways is God calling us to be saintlier in our own lives?

Resources

Personal Faith to Lead

Books:

Lewis, C S. *Mere Christianity*. New York: MacMillan Pub. Co, 1952. Print.

Parachin, Victor M. *The Nine Habits of Highly Effective Christians*. Totowa, NJ: Resurrection Press, 2009.



Articles:

"Praying to the Saints." Catholic Answers. Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://www.catholic.com/tracts/praying-to-the-saints>.

"Called to Be Holy: Cardinal Dolan's 10-step Guide to Holiness." Accessed June 11, 2016. <https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Story/TabId/2672/ArtMID/13567/ArticleID/13247/Called-to-be-holy-Cardinal-Dolan's-10-step-guide-to-holiness.aspx>.

Part 3

Made

for

Holiness



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

Following Our Calling

Made for Holiness

“I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.”

Ephesians 4:1-3

Introduction:

We all search for purpose and meaning to our lives in some way. As Catholic Christians, we have been called by God to fulfill a certain purpose. This calling is known as our vocation. It is important to try to discern our vocation and learn what we are being called to do so we can become the most effective leaders possible.

We Are Called:

We have all been called by God to carry out his message with love and care for others and bring light to a world of darkness so everyone is able to learn and know of Jesus. This calling is not optional for Christians. It is our mission to bring the light of Christ to others. The Vatican II document *Lumen Gentium* (40) describes this mission as a call to holiness. “The followers of Christ are called by God...in the baptism of faith they truly become sons of God and sharers in the divine nature. In this way they really are made holy. Then too, by God’s gift, they must hold on to and complete in their lives this holiness they have received.” This is a part of all of our vocations.

God does not send us into the world without the tools we need. These tools are given to us through the sacraments. In Baptism, we become members of God’s family and receive the grace necessary to live a Christian life. This sanctifying grace cleanses us from original sin and gives us the strength to listen to the Holy Spirit and live virtuously. Another sacrament helping us answer God’s call is Confirmation. During this sacrament, not only do we become full adult members of the church, we also receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit—Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Wonder and Awe. Through these gifts, the Holy Spirit helps us live our lives as Catholic Christians and fulfill God’s role in us.

A Universal Vocation:

While God might call us to be priests, lay people, teachers, missionaries, etc., we can never forget that we are all called to act like Christ in every way possible.

Made for Holiness

St. Therese of Lisieux described it best when she said, “My vocation is love.” Since Christ’s mission on Earth was rooted in love, we must be rooted in the same unconditional love shown to us. This love should flow over into everything we do, into every aspect of our lives. When we learn to love completely and unconditionally, we become like Christ—an example for others—which helps us fulfill our mission of bringing Christ to others.



Activity

Learning Objectives:

The purpose of this journaling activity is for participants to take time and reflect on the ways they may be called by God in their lives.

Materials:

The handout for this activity can be found in the Supplemental Materials section on page 76.

Directions:

Have participants take some personal time to think about and reflect on what they have learned about in this section. In what ways are they being called by God? How have they answered His call in their lives? Are there ways they can listen better to God? What is one thing they resolve to do that will help them better listen to God’s will?

Ask the participants to use this as a prayerful time to journal their thoughts.



Leadership through Prayer

Made for Holiness

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7

Introduction:

Finding what God is calling us to do is not always easy. God may not often appear and divulge His plan for us. To find our vocations, we need to be in constant pursuit of God. We need to open ourselves up to Him and allow Him into our lives. The best way to connect with God and to be open with Him is through prayer. Prayer can best be looked at as a conversation between us and God. Through prayer, we align with God’s will, and He is able to change our hearts.

Happiness versus Joy:

In her presentation on holiness, Elizabeth Montgomery explained there is a difference between being a happy person and being a joyful person. Happiness is a temporary emotion that comes from worldly things. While we may enjoy it at the time, happiness does not last and will eventually go away, leaving us searching for more. Joy is a different emotion. It comes from God and fills us completely. When we are joyful, our perspective changes and things that once seemed difficult or mundane are more appreciated because we now see the world through the eyes of God. This joy is what filled the saints and helped them become effective leaders for Christ.

Mary is a great example of a saint filled with joy. When the angel Gabriel appeared to her (Luke 1:26-38), she exclaimed, “My spirit rejoices in God my savior!” and she continued on, glorifying the Lord and His goodness. Becoming the mother of God is a daunting task, but Mary never showed fear or apprehension because she was so filled with joy that she knew God would help her through it. Mary’s joy continues throughout the bible and can be seen through her good nature, her love for her Son and her obedience to both God and Christ. Mary is never seen complaining as her Son travels around preaching. She even follows Him to the foot of the cross and stays there with Him, regardless of the pain and sorrow she endures. Mary is joyful, not because her life is perfect, but because she has faith in God and confidence in His plan. This joy helps her throughout her life.

Made for Holiness

Finding God in Prayer:

The best way to become a joy-filled person is to connect with God and have a relationship with Him. However, this relationship does not always come naturally to us, and sometimes we need to really work at it. Having a relationship with God is not much different than having a relationship with anyone else. If we do not talk to that person and try to ignore them, the friendship falls apart. In the same way, if we ignore God, we lose our identity as Christians and forget what our mission is. In order to keep a strong, healthy commitment to God, we need to continually pray. Prayer connects us with God in the same way a cell phone and social media connect us with friends.

Just because prayer is essential to the life of a Christian does not mean everyone has to pray the same way. Prayer can come across as forced and unnatural. Prayers such as the 'Our Father' and the rosary can be seen as restrictive and meaningless lines that are meant to be repeated over and over to some people. In reality, prayer should be as natural as talking to your best friend. While there is nothing wrong with praying the 'Our Father' or rosary, there are more forms of prayer than just that. There is no wrong way to pray. In fact, we should all find our own way to pray that helps us best connect with God in our own, unique ways.



Discussion

This discussion is meant to get participants thinking about the different types of prayer and what it means to have a relationship with God. For this discussion, split participants up into small groups to talk about the following questions. A handout is available on page 78.

1. What activities in my life make me happy? When do I show or feel joy?
2. What does prayer mean to me?
3. What is my favorite way to pray? Are there any prayer experiences that particularly stick out to me?
4. What is one way I can change or improve my relationship with God?



Types of Prayer

Made for Holiness

“Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Introduction:

Prayer is an essential part of Christian life and takes many different forms. Many saints throughout history have found different forms of prayer that work best for them and have encouraged others to pray this way with them. Today, these different pathways of prayer are known as different spiritualities, usually named after the saint who started encouraging that style of prayer. It is important to know that not everyone connects with every form of prayer, and there is nothing wrong with that. The purpose of learning about the different types of prayer is to help find the ways we best connect with God in order to become a more effective Christian leader.

Thomistic Spirituality:

Thomistic Spirituality is often thought of as a scholastic prayer because it focuses on thought, meditations and orderly cause and effect. A person who practices this type of prayer would look at a theological truth and study it from different angles. The purpose of this is not focused on gaining knowledge, but on finding truth and applying it to life while deepening faith. An example of Thomistic Spirituality is *Lectio Divina*. This form of divine reading involves a bible and meditative prayer. A passage of the bible is read, reflected on, and prayed over in an effort to learn the message the bible passage contains and how it applies to the reader's life. St. Thomas Aquinas, a Doctor of the Church, is a saint well-known for the Thomistic Spirituality. He was considered a great teacher ahead of his time in the medieval era and is known for studying the scriptures with zeal.

Augustinian Spirituality:

This style of prayer focuses on establishing a deep connection with God through feelings and meditations. Those who practice this type of spirituality see themselves in a very personal relationship with God and find evidence of God's love in the world around them. Common forms of Augustinian prayer include adoration and spiritual journaling. Because of its personal connection to God, this style helps people to grow in love and faith. St. Augustine is a famous saint known for living out this spirituality. He went from living a life of sin

Made for Holiness

Another saint known for this spirituality is St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque, who inspired devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Franciscan Spirituality:

This type of spirituality is inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, who encouraged his followers to go out and actively serve those around them. Followers preach what Jesus taught through their actions and, by living a humble life, serving others. These acts of love become a prayer themselves because those serving are doing so in imitation of Christ and becoming closer to Him and understanding His mission on Earth. Another example of Franciscan Spirituality is Mother Teresa, who worked on the streets of India tirelessly caring for the poor and outcasts in society. Through her work, she saw the face of Jesus in each person she served, helping her grow closer to God and become a leader of service, not only in India, but throughout the world.

Ignatian Spirituality:

This is known as the “Path of Discipline” because it focuses on order and self-denial, separating oneself from the material world and focusing on God through fasting and discipline. Those who practice this spirituality insert themselves into different bible stories and imagine what their role would be in the story to better understand their relationship with Christ. They also tend to want silence during prayer as a way to better focus on God. St. Ignatius of Loyola is well known for this type of prayer. He created the *Examen*, which is a daily prayer consisting of different steps meant to guide the person praying in a meditation through their day in a structured and organized manner.

Activities

Thomistic Spirituality Activity:

Learning Objectives:

Through this activity, participants will gain insight on Thomistic Spirituality and learn how *Lectio Divina* is prayed.

Materials:

The handout for this activity is located in the Supplemental Materials section on page 79.

Directions:

Have students spread out and find a place in the room where they can focus on prayer and not be distracted by anyone else.

Explain to the students how *Lectio Divina* works. First, they will read the bible passage slowly. After they

Made for Holiness

read it, they should stop and reflect on the passage, what the meaning is and what the passage is trying to teach us today. As they do this, they should try to focus on what God is trying to teach them through this passage. Then they should read it again and continue to reflect on the passage. If needed, the students can use the accompanying questions to help them. Once they have taken time to process the meaning of the passage, they can then answer the questions on the handout.

It's important to remind participants this is a prayerful experience, and they should conduct themselves as such.



Augustinian Spirituality:

Learning Objective:

The purpose of this activity is for participants to experience and learn about Augustinian Spirituality through individual meditation.

Materials:

An altar and some background music are necessary for this activity. It is recommended you use music from the Taize community, a community located in France that consists of members from both the Catholic and Protestant way of life. They are well-known for their simple, chanted music. Only a basic altar is needed, which can be a table with a cloth covering it, some candles and a picture of Jesus and/or a crucifix. You can add whatever you desire to the altar and make it simple or ornate.

Directions:

Have participants gather around the altar and spread out so they are comfortable. Turn off the lights only candles light the room. Tell participants to listen to the music and observe the altar while they meditate quietly, praying to God and listening for what He is trying to tell them. This meditation can last as long as you desire, but it is recommended participants sit and pray for about three song lengths.



Franciscan Prayer:

Learning Objective:

Participants will learn how Franciscan Spirituality focuses on service through prayerfully washing each other's hands.

Materials:

A bowl, a pitcher of water and one or two hand towels

Directions:

Have participants pair off and come up to the front of the room, two at a time, to take turns washing each others' hands.

Made for Holiness

As one person pours water on the hands of their partner, they'll pray, "Bless these hands Lord that work for your glory," and the partner should reply "Amen." The duo will then switch who washes hands and repeat the process. Have participants continue taking turns coming up to wash hands until everyone has completed the activity.



Ignatian Spirituality:

Learning Objective:

The purpose of this activity is for participants to experience the Ignatian Spirituality through structured meditation on a bible passage.

Materials:

A bible story, such as the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10).

Directions:

Have participants close their eyes and listen to you as you read the story to them. Background music playing softly, similar to the music used in the Augustinian activity, will help set the mood for this activity. Tell them to imagine themselves as a part of the story, as if they were there as it happened. Read the story slowly and clearly, giving them time to listen and absorb the passage as it is being read. Once the story is read, let the students remain where they are and think about the story and its meaning. At different intervals, prompt them with different questions to help them as they meditate on the story at hand. Some questions you can use are listed below.

1. Who am I in this story? What role do I play?
2. Am I happy with that role? Why? What can I do to change?
3. How does this describe my relationship with God?



Resources

Made for Holiness

Articles:

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*. Pope Paul VI, November 21, 1964. http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19641121_lumen-gentium_en.html

"Four Basic Forms of Prayer." Archdiocese of Boston. Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://www.bostoncatholic.org/Being-Catholic/Content.aspx?id=11444>.

"Strong Leadership Creates Lasting Ministries." October 10, 2012. Accessed June 11, 2016. <https://www.osv.com/TodaysIssues/PoliticsandSocialIssues/Poverty/Article/TabId/1273/ArtMID/15086/ArticleID/9075/Strong-leadership-creates-lasting-ministries.aspx>.

"Why We Pray." Archdiocese of Boston. Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://www.bostoncatholic.org/Being-Catholic/Content.aspx?id=11442>.

Part 4

Made

to

Witness



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

Christ-like Leadership

Made to Witness

“Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but [also] everyone for those of others. Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 2:3-5

Introduction:

Our mission as Christians is to bring others to Christ so they can know Him and have a personal relationship with Him. As a part of that mission, we need to be a reflection of Christ so when other people look at us, they do not see us, but Christ acting through us. Being this reflection of Christ means we strive to act like Him in all ways possible, and we imitate His leadership style, loving completely and selflessly.

Reflections of Christ:

Speaker Greg Wasinski highlights five characteristics of Jesus we should strive to imitate. As a leader, Jesus was compassionate, methodical and patient. He also led for the common good and was a servant leader. In order to be effective Christian leaders ourselves, we need to strive to adapt these qualities to our everyday lives.

Compassion was an important quality in Jesus’ ministry because His message is for all people, not just the best or the brightest. Christ would go out of His way to be with the sick, the sinners and the outcasts of society, and He loved them just as much as He loved everyone else. In the same way, we are called to bring the message of Christ to everyone around us and show the same love and care Christ did.

Christ was methodical in the sense that He knew where He was supposed to be and why. Everything Jesus did, He did with a purpose. Our leadership should not be accidental. We have all been called by God to be leaders, and we need to answer His call. We need to lead with purpose and reason, knowing our mission and acting on it.

Patience is a difficult, yet integral part of leadership. There are several times in the Gospel when Jesus tried to explain something to his disciples and they just did not understand what He was saying. Jesus never got mad. In a situation where most people would become frustrated and give up, Christ shows patience. We need to do the same thing in our own ministry and show patience to those who frustrate us. Often times as leaders, we encounter people who are resistant or do not progress like they should. Instead of giving up on them, we are called to endure and continue to help them.

One of the most important parts of Christ’s ministry was that He led for the common good.

Made to Witness

Jesus knew His mission on Earth was not about Himself. He was sent to bring people to conversion, helping them find His Father. In the same way, we need to be humble and know we are leaders for God. Our mission is about God, not ourselves.

Lastly, Jesus set the ultimate example of what it means to be a servant leader. He led by example and served others in every way possible. While we may not wash peoples' feet today, we are still called to go out of our way and serve as many people as possible.



Activity

Personal Vision Statements:

Learning Objective:

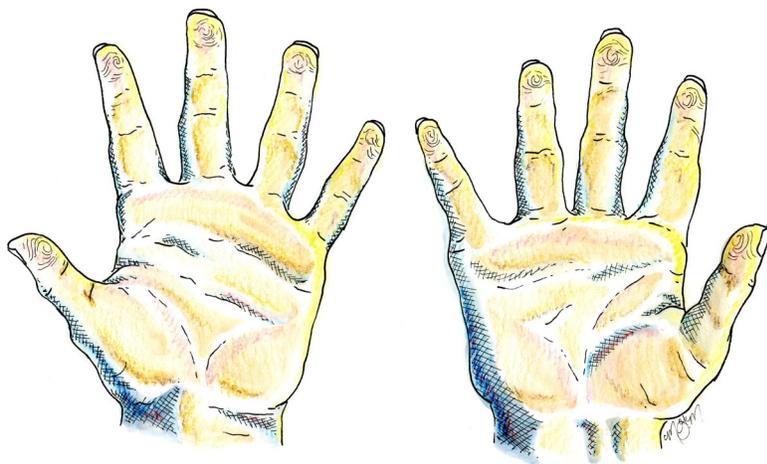
Through this activity, participants will be able to understand how living a Christ-like life should be intertwined with our own personal visions.

Materials:

The handout for this activity can be found in the Supplemental Materials section on page 81.

Directions:

Have participants write a personal vision statement on what God is calling them to do and how they plan to fulfill their mission. Give them time to discuss and brainstorm the ways they could possibly carry out their different visions. Afterward, ask participants to share the different visions they have. Even though everyone has the similar mission of bringing others to Christ, the way they plan to do that can vary from person to person.



Witnesses of God

Made to Witness

“Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

Matthew 5:16

Introduction:

It is important to remember we do not choose God, God chooses us. He shapes us in such a way that every aspect of our life has purpose. God does not make mistakes. He uses different situations throughout life to shape us and help us grow so we can know Him. The more we know God, the more we know His mission for us. As leaders, it is important to remember that God is a part of our leadership. He is with us on every step of our journey, and everything we do should be a reflection of God.

The Ultimate Goal:

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states certain responsibilities we have as Catholics: to know, to love, and to serve God. Greg Wasinski added a fourth responsibility of making it to Heaven as our ultimate goal. It is achieved when the first three are completed. We were made by God to return to God when our mission on Earth is complete.

It is our job to help each other make it to Heaven. We do this by being witnesses of Christ’s faith and bringing the light of Christ to others. When we do this, we do so much more than just point out the way to Heaven. We show others how to live a Godly life. At the same time we help others, others are helping us on our journey. Together, we become united in the common goal of attaining eternal life.

Holiness versus “Whole”-iness

As we lead each other to Heaven, it is also our job to help each other attain not just holiness but also “whole”-iness. Holiness, or being holy, is when we are in a state of grace with God. While this is important, it does not matter unless we are whole. To be whole means we are so connected with God that nothing can break that relationship. Nothing can get in the way of us and God. This is the “whole”-iness the saints have. They know God and are complete with Him. Nothing that happens can separate them from Him.

Our journey of faith is not a competition. We should not try to outperform each other or succeed when others fail. To go to Heaven, we need to be both holy and whole and help others achieve that, too.

Made to Witness

This is part of our mission as leaders. We need to do more than just lead others to Christ, we need to help them have a relationship with Him, too.

A Living Witness:

One way to help others have a relationship with Christ is to be a living witness of that relationship ourselves. To successfully do that, we need to let go of what holds us down and fully embrace Christ. The disciples were more effective fishermen with both hands catching fish rather than one hand holding on to the boat. In the same way, need to go out and serve others, to witness to Christ without reservations. Until we fully “let go and let God,” we cannot fully witness to marvelous works of the Lord.

Part of being a living witness includes giving God all we have to offer, even when we do not have much. In Luke 9:10-17, the disciples were at a loss because they needed to feed the 5,000 people that had been listening to Jesus preach all day. All they had were five loaves of bread and two fish. Believing that was not enough, they asked Jesus to send them away so everyone could find their own food. Instead of sending them away, Jesus took the food they did have, blessed it, and served it to the people. The food multiplied and twelve baskets of food were leftover in the end.

The disciples believed the little food they had to offer was not good enough. On the contrary, Christ was able to accept this meager offering and use it. In the same, we should offer God everything we have so He can use it.



Discussion:

Part of being witnesses of Christ means we know and understand that Christ is present with us through everything. Even the most difficult moments of life can help us shape our own faith journey. As a group, discuss the following questions and how we can be witnesses of faith. A handout is available on page 82 of the Supplemental Materials section.

1. What is the most challenging moment you have experienced in the last year?
2. When was the last time you experienced joy?
3. How can we as leaders use these moments in our lives to witness to Christ?



Technology and Leadership

Made to Witness

*“So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”
1 Corinthians 10:31*

Introduction:

In today’s modern world, we are constantly surrounded by technology, and it can be difficult, if not impossible, to go a day without encountering some form of it. As with anything, there are both positives and negatives to technology. On a global scale, technology is uniting us closer than we have ever been before. At the same time, real-life connections are dwindling as people rush to embrace the electronic world. As a result, the way leaders in faith evangelize is slowly changing.

Disconnect to Connect:

As leaders in faith, our job is to carry out the mission we have been given. In other words, we are called to evangelize at all times. In many ways, technology has become a distraction to our mission of evangelization because it can pull us away from other people and encases us in a solitary bubble. The more we rely on technology and using our cell phones and social media to make connections, the further away we become from connecting with other.

Successful leaders cannot lead if they are unable to connect with others. We need to disconnect from electronics and focus on interacting with those around us. This can be as simple as not using phones at the dinner table or turning off electronics at group events. Something as simple as this helps us connect with those around us and creates conversations and real relationships.

Technology and Faith:

It’s important to realize that while technology may have a downside, it has numerous perks. Through the Internet and other electronics, we are more connected than we have ever been before, opening up new means of evangelization. Mother Angelica recognized this potential when she created EWTN, a Catholic news media that brings the faith to many people through TV and radio.

We too can use technology in positive ways. Simple things like refusing to submit ourselves to any lower standards of the Internet and using social media in a mature, Christian way shows others how Christians are meant to act and conduct themselves. We become witnesses of Christ through our actions, no matter how simple they are.

Made to Witness

Activity

Mirror, Mirror:

Learning Objective:

This activity is designed to show participants the negative effects that too much technology can have by simulating how challenging it can be to communicate with others when we are preoccupied with technology.

Directions:

Have participants pair up. One person will be the instigator of the action, the other person is the reflection. The instigator performs a series of actions (raising hands, patting head, moving head, etc.) and the reflector will copy it as if they were the reflection in a mirror. Once they are split into pairs, have the groups pick which person will play what role. Without giving them time to prepare, select a duo to come to the front and act it out in front of everybody. The group performing wants to be seamless, while it is the goal of those watching to guess who is starting the action and who is the reflection.

After each group has completed the activity, give the participants time to discuss with their partners and plan out their actions. Then have them perform and have everyone guess their roles again. The goal of this second round is to see if it is easier to move seamlessly when communication is involved. Because they have discussed what they are doing and the reflector knows what is coming next, it should be harder for the other participants to guess who the leader is.

After the activity is over, talk about what just occurred. Use the questions below to generate conversation.

1. What was the most difficult part of this activity for the partners? For those watching?
2. How does communication make the partner's job easier?
3. In the first round, it was hard for the partners to communicate because they could not talk. What if something else was distracting or preventing communication? What could be a distraction and how can we prevent it?



Discussion

There once was a young girl walking a beach with her mother following a large hurricane. Among the rubble and destruction was a line of flimsy looking palm trees that seemed untouched. Curious to this reality the girl asked the mother how the palm trees survived the hurricane-force winds that destroyed more stable-looking structures. The mother explained, "When palm trees grow, their roots grow horizontally and wrap around other palm tree roots...almost like holding hands. In heavy storms, palm trees stay grounded because they are intricately connected to each other. Each tree relies on the other to weather the storm."

Made to Witness

In some ways, the values we share connect us to others and keep us grounded, especially in turbulent times. Let us learn from the palm trees and gratefully recognize the importance of our connection to others and living out the values we hold.

1. What are the key values that motivate and inspire you when you make choices?
2. How do others influence us as servant leaders?
3. Can you think of someone in your life who has helped ground you?



Resources

Made to Witness

Books:

Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, comp. *Disciples Called to Witness: The New Evangelization*. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2013.

Lovasik, Lawrence G., and Lawrence G. Lovasik. *The Hidden Power of Kindness: A Practical Handbook for Souls Who Dare to Transform the World, One Deed at a Time*. Manchester, NH: Sophia Institute Press, 1999.

Martin, Curtis. *Made for More: Isn't It Time You Discover the Life God Wanted You to Live?* Boston, MA: Beacon Publishing, 2008.

Vergo, Alfredo. "Using Technology For Ministry: Trends, Principles, And Applications." *Theological Librarianship* 3.2 (2010): 16-21.



Articles:

"Church Leaders: Be an Example." Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://trainchurchleaders.com/example.htm>.

Weber, Kerry. "Leading by Example." *America The National Catholic Review*. October 28, 2013. Accessed June 11, 2016. <http://americamagazine.org/issue/leading-example>.

Part 5

Made

to

Hope



WALSH
UNIVERSITY
A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

Surrendering to God

Made to Hope

“I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD, your God, is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

Introduction:

As Christians, we have been blessed by God in numerous ways. He chooses us and trusts us to fulfill our mission as disciples. It is easy to lose sight of this when we get caught up in the world. To be successful leaders, we need to remember the many ways God helps us in our lives and the way in which He continues to provide for us. Without surrendering ourselves to God, it would be impossible to successfully carry out our mission in life.

Never Give Up:

A lot of Christians seem to have the false idea that because they are faithful and following God's will, their life will be easy. For a while this may seem to be true, but there will eventually be some trial or hardship. When this happens, it is easy to think God has abandoned us, especially if we have the mindset that life should be easy. This simply is not true. Just like Christ had to suffer during His life on Earth, we will also experience many trials and temptations. It is important to remember life may be hard, but God does not leave us and He is still with us the whole time.

Give God Everything:

Christ gave us His whole life when He died for us on the cross. He gave up everything so we can be truly joyful. In the same way, we need to give everything we are and everything we have for God. Every morning when we wake up, we should offer that day up to God so He can use us and speak through us so others can come to see God. When life is great and everything seems to be going according to plan, it can be easy to offer it up. It becomes more difficult to stay focused on God when we are frustrated and upset, feeling empty and alone, and when our plans are not going as we want. When we offer up these difficult moments, we acknowledge we are not strong enough to live without God and we need Him to help us in our lives, especially in our moments of need.

It is important to remember everything we have comes from God. When we lose sight of these blessings we have received, it becomes easier to lose sight of God. This is one reason why it is important to give everything up to God. When we are dependent on God, we have given Him everything and know everything we have comes from Him.

Made to Hope

Activity

Tack Activity:

Learning Objective:

The purpose of this activity is to simulate how we need to rely on God to help us through the rough patches of life.

Materials:

A box of tacks and a blindfold

Directions:

Start by placing the tacks pointy side up on the floor, either randomly or in a maze pattern. Ask for a volunteer who would be willing to navigate the tacks. Once a volunteer is selected, have her take off her shoes and blindfold her. As soon as she is blindfolded, take the tacks off the floor so a bare floor is left. Then tell her everyone present will help guide her through the maze of tacks.

After everything is ready, tell the volunteer to begin. The point of this activity is to make the volunteer think there is a possibility of stepping on tack. Use phrases like “Go slowly now... slowly,” “Don’t set your foot down there!” and “Pivot a little to the right.” Sound effects like gasping also add to the charade. Encourage everyone watching to chime in and also help give directions to navigate through the “maze.” Once the volunteer has made it across, you can have her take off the blindfold and see the tacks were all removed from the floor.

Explain to the participants that the tacks are our obstacles in life. A lot of times, these obstacles and problems seem a lot worse than they really are. In this case, it seemed dangerous navigating the maze, but the problem was not as serious as it seemed. The voices of people guiding the volunteer represent the voice of God. At times there were a lot of voices speaking, and figuring out who to listen to could have been confusing to the blindfolded person. This represents the difficulties of hearing God’s voice and the misleading voices that come our way. If we stay calm and listen, He can help us through anything.



The Power of Love

Made to Hope

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.”

1 John 4:7

Introduction:

As leaders, it is easy to focus on ourselves and forget about the ministry we are called to do. When we focus on this pride, we forget to be servant leaders and stop helping those around us. We are called to be humble leaders and place the emphasis on those we serve—not us. To do this, we need to remember love is the key. If we do not love, it is almost impossible to be a successful leader in faith.

Called to Lead: A Story of Empowerment

The following fictional example highlights the importance of empowerment through leadership. A well-known business periodical regularly spotlighted businesses with “best practices” characteristics in each of its issues. The magazine highlighted efficiency in product production or service, green business development and various technological advancements. For the next edition, the periodical wanted to do a special piece on the importance of leadership.

A reporter met with the CEO of a local company and asked her about its steady success and overall stellar employee satisfaction. The CEO attributed the success of the company and positive experiences of the employees to her leadership style. She explained, “When I started as CEO, I was given advice about my leadership style. I was told to lead in front by embracing my vision and telling others what to do to achieve it. How would I know I am effectively leading? I would look behind me and see if others were following. To some extent, leading involves being in front, but I wanted to be different. I sought to motivate others through empowerment. I want my employees to buy into my vision and use their talents to enhance the company, recognizing they are critical to its success. Rather than look behind me to see who’s following, I want to look forward and see who’s leading to better the company. How do I know I am an effective CEO? I look ahead and see how my employees take vested interest in the company’s success. I maintain the vision, but I empower others to serve as experts in facets of the company. When employees feel needed and necessary to a vision, this work becomes more than a job. It becomes a medium for development and change.”

The CEO recognized the importance of empowerment in her company. Similar to the employees, we are empowered to use our gifts to care for the well being of others and build God’s kingdom on earth. Let us always be empowered to share this vision, maintain the motivation, and embrace God’s wisdom to be transformed in His grace.

Made to Hope

Jesus—The Ultimate Example:

Throughout his lifetime, Jesus showed us countless examples of his caring love for others, even up to the point of his death. These simple acts of love are not just recorded in the bible because they are good stories. They are there because they are moving and inspirational, inviting us to be leaders. This happens because love is powerful. Christ's love was shown through his servant leadership, when He cared for everyone, even the poor, the sick, and the outcast. As a leader, Christ not only served many people, but He touched the lives of many both past and present. This love does not just touch one person and stop. It grows and multiples, being passed on from person to person.

Called to Love:

It is easy for leaders to get caught up in the end results. We want to see how effective our leadership was, how many people we changed, the product of our work. In other words, we want to see the statistics of our leadership. We want to be able to measure the difference we made. But this difference is not always quantifiable, and the effectiveness of our work should not be our first goal or what we focus on.

Our focus should be on love. We are called to love Christ, to love others, and to love ourselves. This love should be our emphasis, not the number of people who heard us or the work we did. Eventually these things will not be remembered. What is remembered is the love we showed others and the relationships that came from that love.

God calls each and every one of us because He loves us. We should give that love back to Him through our leadership. The best way to do that is to lead through love. When we act out of love, we are offering our work up to God in praise and thanksgiving. When we center our mission and our service around loving others, we acknowledge the good we are doing is not for us but for God.

When we stay focused on love, we stay focused on the true purpose of God's mission for us. As soon as we shift our focus to the quantifiable things, when we become more interested in our image, and when we care more about our wants and needs, we lose sight of God and our true calling. In order to be effective leaders in faith, we need to love with the same love that Christ showed us.



Activity

Spread the Love Activity:

Learning Objective:

During this activity, participants will learn how it is possible to show love through little acts of kindness. They will also learn that it just important to love themselves as it is to love others.

Made to Hope

Materials:

Notecards (3 per person) and writing utensils

Directions:

Have participants select two people they know and write a short letter or inspirational message to them on the first two notecards. The point of this activity is to brighten someone's day, so encourage participants to remind the recipients of how much they are loved and how important they are. The participants can either personally deliver these letters or hide them somewhere so the recipient could randomly stumble across it.

The third notecard is for themselves, because just like it is important to remind others of how special they are, it is important to remember to love ourselves, too. Have them write a short note to themselves with the reasons they are special and deserve to be loved. Encourage them to keep it as a reminder of how they need to remember to love themselves.



People of Hope

Made to Hope

“What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Romans 8:31

Introduction:

As we read in the Book of Job, life may give us great challenges, but God is always with us and providing us with hope. Our mission from God is far from easy. Because of our faith in God, however; we know fulfilling this mission is completely worth it. Why? Because we are a people of hope who hope in Christ. This hope tells us that if we remain faithful to Christ, listen to His teachings, and carry out His mission, we will eventually gain eternal life with Him. This hope is what drives us to trust in God, even when things are not easy.

Jesus Loves You:

When Christ died on the cross, He died for everybody. He died for the people He knew and walked among, for the people who had already lived and died, and for the people who had yet to live. Most importantly, He died for YOU. Jesus died because He loves you and He desires to live with you forever in paradise. He has an important role for you, a job that only you can fulfill.

Just because we are called to carry out our mission as Christians does not mean life will be perfect. Everyone encounters difficulties and roadblocks that sometimes seem impossible to overcome. This can be seen through the different stories of saints who all struggled with something. But the saints knew God was with them and supported them every step of the journey. Just like God stuck with the saints through everything, He sticks with us, too. When things get difficult, remember how much God loves you. With God on your side, all things are possible.

Discussion:

After talking about the important role that hope plays in leadership, take some time to discuss this topic with the group. Use the questions below to fuel the discussion. A handout is available on page 89.

1. What does hope mean to you?
2. How would a lack of hope negatively affect leadership?
3. What people or things inspire us to keep going when we are struggling?
4. How can we help other people be hopeful?

Resources

Made to Hope

Books:

Arinze, Francis A. *The Layperson's Distinctive Role*. Ignatius Press, 2013.



Articles:

Steiner, Fr. Edward F. "Christ's Love for Us All." Accessed June 11, 2016. <https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Article/TabId/535/ArtMID/13567/ArticleID/19174/Christ's-Love-for-Us-All.aspx>.

Part 6

Supplemental Materials



WALSH
UNIVERSITY

A Catholic University of Distinction

with grant support
from

OurSundayVisitor

Together Video

The Power of Influence

Directions: After watching the LeBron James “Together” video, take the time to think about and discuss the following questions with your group.



1. What group is LeBron James trying to lead? What is his mission for this group?

2. What is their vision? How will they accomplish their mission?

3. How does James lead?

4. How is James’ influence seen in this video?



Directions: Transfer your scores from the previous page to the table below. Add the numbers in each section together except for the final row, in which you will subtract that number. This will give the scores for each section.

Pioneering Leadership	Strategic Leadership	Management/ Administration	Team Leadership	Pastoral Leadership	Encouraging Leadership
Q1	Q8	Q2	Q6	Q7	Q3
Q11	Q10	Q9	Q12	Q14	Q5
Q20	Q16	Q18	Q25	Q22	Q13
Q26	Q28	Q24	Q30	Q29	Q19
Add 6	Add 6	Add 6	Add 6	Add 6	Add 6
Subtotal	Subtotal	Subtotal	Subtotal	Subtotal	Subtotal
-Q4	-Q21	-Q15	-Q23	-Q17	-Q27

Pioneering leaders are those who are willing to push themselves and take appropriate risks in striving to move forward to discover and reach long-term goals. Pioneering leaders are passionate about the vision and are committed to it. Paul is a great example of a pioneering leader who focused on extending the boundaries of the church despite personal risk. Pioneering leaders are at their strongest in the early stages of a project, excited by seeking out where God is calling. As time passes, they may lose interest in the implementation of a vision, eager to be looking ahead to the next challenge.

Strategic Leaders are those who can break down visions and large aims into manageable chunks. They have the insight and focus to work out ways of achieving the vision and are able to persuade the rest of the church to accept this plan. When Nehemiah led the Jews in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, he demonstrated great strategic leadership in dividing the work and keeping the task manageable. His plan was so good, the walls were rebuilt in 52 days. Strategic leaders bring a common sense perspective. However, like pioneers, they can be less engaged with the implementation of a task, preferring to leave this to others.

Stewards and Managers are people with the gifts of administration. Any vision or change will require people able to plan and problem solve, delegate and organize. Without this gift, the best plans may well not get implemented! The apostles delegated the practical tasks of sharing food and taking care of the widows to those gifted with the necessary skills, including Stephen and Philip. Managers are often under appreciated, having a leadership style which is less “up-front” than some of the other styles. However, much of the work simply would not get done without them. They may struggle to relate to the visionary pioneers—dreaming of achieving the impossible is not their home ground.

Team Leaders desire to work with others and have an ability to trust others. They need great humility and servanthood—their sole aim is that the team achieves its goals. What they as individuals achieve is secondary. The greatest contribution Silas made to the church was probably training and developing Paul’s ministry so he could go on to achieve greater things later. Team leaders are invaluable—if the church is truly to function as a body, team leaders are needed to ensure harmony and effectiveness in the way the team works.

Pastoral Leaders are real “people people” who have an important role in supporting the pioneers, strategists, team leaders and the rest of the church, particularly when times are hard. Vision and moving into vision seem less important to pastoral leaders. Peter was a pastoral leader, a complete contrast to Paul’s energetic church planting and exhortation. Pastoral leadership is often unseen, and often unappreciated publically, yet hugely important. Those who are pastoral leaders can sometimes be threatened by the pioneers and strategists—and at times are irritated by the attention to detail shown by the managers. Yet their contribution to a team is invaluable. Take time for a moment to think of a pastoral leader, and you will probably find they command huge respect and support.

Encouraging Leaders are able to motivate whole churches, teams and individuals. Paul was a great encourager because his letters to the early churches contained exhortation and encouragement as well as teaching. Encouraging leaders have great discernment into peoples’ gifts, their feelings and what motivates them, able to release them into fulfilling their ministries. Who doesn’t need encouragement? Encouraging leaders have the knack of knowing when a quiet word can spur people on, when to challenge and when to support, when to coach and when to give space. Occasionally, they may irritate people by appearing less “hands on” than other leadership styles.

Murmel, Murmel, Murmel

Servant Leadership

Directions: Read *Murmel, Murmel, Murmel*, then answer the following questions.



1. How is this story joyful? Who found joy? Who did not?

2. Identify a leader who helped you find joy in life. What did he/she do?

3. Identify a particular item that helps you remember that encounter. (For example, a gift from an inspirational teacher.)

4. A large part of servant leadership is finding joy in serving. How does the story model this aspect of servant leadership?



Different Saints

Saints as an Example of Faith

Directions: Together as a group, take time to think about and discuss the following questions. Feel free to write your answers in the spaces provided.



1. Is there any saint who stands out to you as an exemplary leader in some way?

2. What saint's story is the most inspirational to you? Why?

3. We all have the potential to be saints. In what ways is God calling us to be saintlier in our own lives?



Discussion

Leadership through Prayer

Directions: In small groups, discuss the questions below.



1. What activities in my life make me happy? When do I show or feel joy?

2. What does prayer mean to me?

3. What is my favorite way to pray? Are there any prayer experiences that particularly stick out to me?

4. What is one way I can try to change or improve my relationship with God?



Lectio Divina

Types of Prayer

Directions: Read the passage below, prayerfully reflect on it, then answer the questions on the next page.



The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)

“In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, ‘Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ But Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?’ And the angel said to her in reply, ‘The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.’ Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.”



Read the passage, then pause and reflect on the message. Afterward, read the passage again.



After contemplating on and reading the passage, answer the questions below:

1. Consider Mary's faith. What is her faith like? What qualities are shown in this passage?

2. How did her faith enable her to respond to God's call?

3. Why is forgiveness important?

4. What changes do I need to make in my own life to bring my faith more in line with Mary's faith?

Pray. Ask God to help you say "yes" to growing in your faith.



Personal Vision Statements

Reflections of Christ

Directions: We all have the common mission to bring others to Christ, but the ways we do that differ from person to person. Think about the ways God is calling you to personally carry out that mission, and write your own vision statement below.



1. Brainstorm three ways God could be calling you to fulfill your mission.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2. Using the ideas you brainstormed above, write a vision statement for how you plan to carry out your mission.



Discussion

Witnesses of God

Directions: In small groups, discuss the questions below.



1. What is the most challenging moment you have experienced in the last year?

2. When was the last time you experienced joy?

3. How can we as leaders use these moments in our lives to witness to Christ?



Allegory of the Cave

Technology and Leadership

Directions: Read *Allegory of the Cave* by Plato and then answer the questions below.



1. Why do these prisoners believe that what they are seeing is real?

2. Why can't the prisoners leave the cave? What happens when they do?

3. How does this story relate to the modern world?

4. Besides technology, are there other things in our lives we are slaves to, holding us back from answering God's call?

5. How can we, as leaders, help pull others out of their own caves?



Discussion

People of Hope

Directions: As a group, discuss the questions below.



1. What does hope mean to you?

2. How would a lack of hope negatively affect leadership?

3. What people or things inspire us to keep going when we are struggling?

4. How can we help other people be hopeful?



