

Facilitators Guide - Session Outline

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| 0:00-0:10 | Opening prayer and comments |
| 0:10-0:20 | Reflection on Week 1 CALL TO ACTION |
| 0:20-0:40 | Video #2 |
| 0:40-0:45 | 5 minute Break |
| 0:45-1:20 | Small group discussion |
| 1:25-1:30 | Closing comments and prayer |

Facilitators Guide – Reflection & Video

CHAPTER
1&2

REFLECTION ON WEEK 1 CALL TO ACTION:

“At the end of the last session, we had a CALL TO ACTION, could someone please read it aloud (from page 2 of Participant Guide Week 1)?”

“Would anyone like to share any step they were able to take since our last session?”

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- Be careful not to put anyone on the spot – it’s likely that some members of your group may not have done anything yet! Be encouraging, and be absolutely clear that they are not being judged – discipleship takes time!
- Have your own step(s) ready to share, but only do so if needed – if nobody else wants to speak first.
- If the conversation isn’t flowing, ask them what they could do this coming week, and if all else fails – just enjoy some casual conversation for the rest of the time.

Watch Video #2:

Always have faith and trust in God when things aren’t going well

We like to be comfortable, and when we achieve that feeling, we want to hold onto it. However, this is often contrary to God’s plan for us, and we should remind ourselves that to grow in faith, or to grow in any aspect of our lives, we need to recognize that it won’t always happen in the comfortable situations that we might want it to.

In the book of Genesis, God calls Abraham to put his trust and faith in Him and step out of his comfort zone. Father Michael explores Abraham’s response, the eventual outcomes, and relates them to experiences in their church.

True growth in our faith comes only when we challenge ourselves. This sometimes means questioning what we are doing, and when something isn’t working - having the courage to change it, or walk away. We also look at the importance of stepping out of our comfort zones to learn from others who are growing and succeeding.

Holy Family Parish Book Club : Rebuilt

SESSION 2

Facilitators Guide – Small Group Discussion

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- Take 30 seconds to review the “Keep the Conversation Alive” guidelines on the Yellow sheet.
- Ask participants to have their books & study guides opened at the chapter  1 indicated next to the question.

CHAPTER 3

Discussion Question:

“To whom should we, as a church, be intentionally reaching out to?”

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- Guide the conversation toward defining different groups of people from the community, for example unengaged regular church goers, Catholics who do not attend church, non-Catholics in the local area.
- If a participant feels we should not be trying to reach anyone – but leave it to people’s own individual choice - be respectful of their opinion, and share yours, but be careful it doesn’t come off like a “teaching moment.”

CHAPTER 4

Discussion Question:

“How could you convince a parishioner to embrace reaching out to the people discussed in question 3, if they are showing resistance because of changes or sacrifices they would need to make?”

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- Guide the conversation by asking for an example of this kind of change or sacrifice. If you need an example – see the one below.

Example: “Let’s say (hypothetically) that to evangelize disengaged young people, we need a Sunday evening Mass, and to allow for that - one of the Sunday morning Mass times has to be removed. Let’s also say that a faithful, long term parishioner is extremely unhappy that “his” or “her” Mass time is to be removed. How could you convince them that evangelizing disengaged young people should take priority over maintaining Mass times, that are simply there because they always have been?”

CHAPTER 5

Discussion Question:
“Make a list of reasons why people do NOT come to church.”

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- *****IMPORTANT** – Please **take a note** (on the orange sheet) **of some responses** from your table. **These will be collected**, and shared with other participants, and other parishioners.

CHAPTER 3&5

CALL TO ACTION:
Take some time this week to...

- **Think about people in your life, who you’d love to see at church.**
- **Identify the person who would be the most difficult to convince.**
- **Reflect and write down the biggest challenges to convincing them to come to church, and what their main objections would be.**

FACILITATOR NOTE:

- After reading the CALL TO ACTION to your group – invite them to start thinking and making some notes now, then continue it over the week.
- Ask if anyone would like to share their thoughts with the group.
