

Participant Guide – Reflection & Video

CHAPTER **3&5**

Reflect on the **CALL TO ACTION** from the end of the last session (On page 2 of Participant Guide week 2). Share your reflection with your group.

The importance of identifying and defining those whom we seek to reach. (***)This is not a discussion question for the table group – it will be discussed by the coordinator of the book club session with the entire group).

Watch Video #3:

Our responsibility to seek lost people and bring them home to the Father

The religious leaders accused Jesus of being irreligious and breaking God’s law by eating with tax collectors and sinners – people who were far from God. In response Jesus tells the story of the Prodigal Son and reveals the Father’s heart for those who have walked away from a relationship with him. He reveals that God the Father is on the lookout for them and will greet them with open arms upon their return.

Will we - like the pharisees – hold onto what we seem rightly and fairly entitled to? Or will we share the responsibility to change our perspective from existing to maintain members, to reaching out to the lost as Jesus did?

Participant Guide – Small Group Discussion

CHAPTER **6**

Discussion Question:

“What could we improve about our weekend experience to ensure that newcomers feel welcome and like they want to come back?”

CHAPTER 7

Discussion Question:

“What practical steps can we take to ensure that we maximize engagement of: a) children b) youth c) young families ?”

CHAPTER 8

Quick reflection:

“What’s your most memorable / impactful homily / homily series?”

Next STEPS

CALL TO ACTION:

Take some time this week to read the Next STEPS booklet and pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you to your next step.

(***This is not a discussion question for the table group this week – it will be discussed by the coordinator of the book club session with the entire group).

- **Choose whatever approach you feel will work for your own prayerful reading and discernment, or follow the suggested structure below.**

Suggested structure for prayer (plan for approx. 30 mins):

- **Begin with the Holy Family Mission Prayer**
- **Invite the Holy Spirit to be with you**
Use your favourite prayer, or simply speak your prayer naturally and from the heart. If you’d like to use St Augustine’s prayer to the Holy Spirit:
“Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy. Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy. Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy. Amen”
- **Slowly read each page of the booklet, pausing when a word or phrase speaks to your heart. Ask the Lord for grace and wisdom to discern what He is calling you to. Listen and write notes in your booklet or journal.**
- **Give God thanks and praise for giving you His love and His guidance (even if you wrote down little or nothing).**
- **End with the Holy Family Mission Prayer**
