

TOPIC ONE: INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

GOALS:

To help the candidate develop a closer identification with an appreciation for the local faith community, the parish

To help the candidate develop skills and gain practical experience in living a life of Christian service to others

To help the candidate develop the willingness and courage required to witness to Christ's teachings and values in today's society.

RATIONALE:

Jesus' call to discipleship invites us to committed membership in the Church. To be a confirmed member of the Church requires a willingness to share one's own time, talent and treasure. Jesus asks us to respond freely to His invitation.

BACKGROUND:

Being realistic, it may be some time before the candidate will fully enter into the mainstream of parish life. Nevertheless, it is not too early to nurture an appreciation for the parish and for the importance of gradually assuming active responsibility within it.

PRAYER (Together)

Lord, still my restlessness and quiet my heart so that I may receive Your Word. Send Your Spirit upon me so that I might hear Your message and respond to it with courage.

(Pause)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle them in the fire of your love.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the Earth.

Jesus, we thank you for initiating our relationship with you. Through Baptism and Confirmation You invite us to enter into your life, death, and resurrection. Help us to contemplate your invitation, to choose freely your values and radically commit ourselves to you so that we may have the fullness of life through your name and may share that life with others through our ministry. Amen.

ACTIVITY I: SCRIPTURE SEARCH **DISCIPLESHIP, WITNESS, SERVICE**

1. Together read each of the Scripture passages below.
2. Discuss each passage together in the light of these questions:
 - a. What aspect of the call of Isaiah and the disciples impresses you?
 - b. What qualities would a disciple need today?
 - c. What can I do to ensure that my efforts as witness possess the qualities described in the Scriptures?

Isaiah 6:1-8

Acts 2:42-47

Matthew 4:18-22

1 Corinthians 12

Matthew 9:9-13

James 2:14-26

ACTIVITY II: TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

1. Under each of the categories above, help your candidate identify what he or she is already doing to share his or her time, talents, and treasure (money) on behalf of the parish and/or others in need of service.
2. Decide together what more can or should be done in these areas in response to each Christian's vocation to be servant to others.

Note: In terms of treasure, it is good to evaluate just how the candidate is presently spending whatever money he or she has available for personal use. One's values and priorities become clear in the process.

What I am doing:

Time

Talent

Treasure

Ways I can further share and serve:

Time

Talent

Treasure

Read out loud: Luke 18: 18 – 23

Question for discussion: What was the rich official loving?

Watch: Sign on to Formed. On the Home page pull down the menu from the "Programs" button. Click "Youth Programs" on the menu. Click on the "YDisciple" tile. Chose the "Who am I?" section from the dropdown box. Click on "Session 1: What I Want and How Am I Made." Watch the first segment of the video (which ends at 1:39).

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PROGRESS REPORT

Date: _____

Name: **Sponsor** _____

Candidate _____

Sponsor: What I discovered in this lesson(s) was:

Candidate: What I discovered in this lesson(s) was:

Sponsor: What specific tasks/assignments should your candidate work on in relation to this topic:

- a. between now and your next meeting?

- b. in a long-range manner?