

A Bible Study

Have three readings from the Bible - John 14: 15-17, 25-27 & 6:13.

After each reading ask the following:

In the context of re-imagining the Diocese....

First Reading: What words, ideas, sentences *stand out* for you in this reading.

Second Reading: What is Jesus *saying to you* in this reading?

Third Reading What is Jesus calling you to do in this reading?

Parish/ Diocesan Structure (Optional)

Spend a few minutes with the group to have them talk about how their parish is structured and its relationship with the Diocese.

Group Sharing on the Diocese: "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"

1. Take a few minutes and share your past personal and parish that stand out with the Diocese.
 - a. Why do these stand out for you?
2. What are some of the things that you value in the Church today & that you would like to hold onto?
3. Have one of the participants read the following scriptural verse....

"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. (Joel 2:28)

Have the participants take a few moments of quiet time to ponder what the Diocese can be tomorrow ...then share their dreams and visions with the group.

Group Discussion on the Strategic / Episcopal) Model

Review with the group the handout entitled "Questionnaires to our Strategic Model".

Encourage open and healthy discussion and while paying special attention special that

- all understand each of the options
- that the views and opinions of participants are respected

At the end of the review have each person complete the questionnaire and add comments and return them to the facilitator.

John 14: 15-17, 25-27 & 6: 13.

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. ²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.

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