

## Reflections on Accompaniment - Dr. Dobie Moser

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*"All families should, above all, be treated with respect and love and accompanied on their journey. The art of accompaniment teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other. The pace of this accompaniment must be steady and reassuring, reflecting a closeness and compassion which, at the same time, heals, liberates and encourages growth."*

Pope Francis on Accompaniment, Joy of the Gospel

*"To accompany someone is to go somewhere with him or her, to break bread together, to be present on a journey with a beginning and an end. We're not sure exactly where the beginning might be, and we're almost never sure about the end. There's an element of mystery, of openness, in accompaniment: I'll go with you and support you on your journey wherever it leads. I'll keep you company and share your fate for a while. And by "a while," I don't mean a little while. Accompaniment is much more often about sticking with a task until it's deemed completed by the person or people being accompanied, rather than by the accompagnateur."*

Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez and Dr. Paul Farmer, Partners in Health, [www.pih.org](http://www.pih.org)

*"I give you a new commandment:<sup>2</sup> love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

John 13: 34 - 35

### **Peace be with you by Steve Angrisano and Sarah Hart**

Do not be afraid, though the shadows may surround you.  
Light will be your way, for the heart of God has found you.

Peace, peace, peace be with you, you are held in the arms of love.  
Peace, peace, peace be with you, you are held in the arms of love.  
you are held in the arms of love.

Do not be afraid, though your road is paved with struggle.  
Love will not delay but will fly to you in trouble.

Peace, peace, peace be with you, you are held in the arms of love  
Peace, peace, peace be with you, you are held in the arms of love.  
You are held in the arms of love.

You are seen, you are heard, you are known by love.  
There is hope. For you are, not alone in God.

Peace, peace, peace be with you, you are held in the arms of love  
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You are held in the arms of love.

**Jesus and the Disinherited**  
**by Dr. Howard Thurman**

**Discipline of Hatred**

**1. Contact without Fellowship**

- Interactions - clear, set roles; power differences are expected and followed;
- “Know your place,” accept as assigned;
- Opportunities - unequal and not shared;
- Name calling - lessens others humanity

**2. Lack of Sympathy/Understanding**

- Blames the poor for being poor; your suffering and fate are your own fault;
- See others - less than self & my people;
- Our group is deserving; others are not
- Blind/closed to vulnerabilities of others

**3. Ill Will toward the “Other”**

- Wish them harm indifferent to suffering
- My anger/outrage justifies cruelty
- Hate blinds me-my role in their suffering
- OK to harm others; less human than me.

**4. Spreading Hatred, Fear, Anxiety**

- Fueled by anger and resentment
- Claims victimhood to justify anger
- Hate destroys life of hater; contagious;
- Death to the mind, spirit, relationship with God.

*Our Catholic Social Mission and doctrine reminds us that the dignity of the human person is the foundation for all other Catholic values. Our faith teaches us that the least, the lost, and the left behind are God’s favorites.*

**Gospel Love and Justice**  
**by Dobie Moser**

**Discipline of Love**

**1. Every person is a Child of God**

- Mutual sense of worth and value
- Common, shared relationship with God
- Every person is a Child of God
- No person is outside of God’s love and mercy – no exceptions

**2. Human Family – Brothers and Sisters in Christ with ALL people**

- Every Person is my Neighbor
- Love people as they are – no judging
- Human Family connected to My family
- Compassion - see suffering of others without looking away; willing to stay

**3. Justice rooted Dignity of Person**

- Every person made in God’s image & likeness
- Judge my own deeds, not others
- Forgiveness of others and self - required
- JUSTICE requires FAITH and ACTION

**4. Spreading Love, Mercy, & Peace**

- Fueled by empathy and compassion
- Claims “kinship” to justify loving actions
- Go to suffering to bring healing and hope
- Salvation and Good News to the person and hope to the World

*The mystery of the poor is this: That they are Jesus in disguise, and what you do for or to them, you do to him. I serve others not because they are good or because I am good, but because God is good.*

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