Companion Worksheet

Creating a Culture of Encounter: A Guide for Joyful Missionary Disciples

SESSION 2

"The main goal of Creating a Culture of Encounter is to discern ways in which the local Church can better respond to those who live on the peripheries of society and foster ways in which the faithful can respond, as missionary disciples, to the call of the New Evangelization, serving the whole Church." (CCE, p. 1)

How to Use This Companion Worksheet

Use this worksheet as a handout to support your parish or community's five-session Encounter process or as a stand-alone reflection, which invites one to encounter and be a missionary disciple to those on the peripheries.

This short worksheet is adapted from the USCCB's Creating a Culture of Encounter: A Guide for Joyful Missionary Disciples resource guide. This handout shares key elements of the CCE Encounter sessions to help missionary disciples in the parish community reflect and reach out to those on the periphery.

Session 2: With Words and Actions: Do It!

INTRODUCTION

In this second section, we focus on how Jesus gets involved in the life of the disciples asking them about their conversation. (p. 18)

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:17-20

[He asked them,] "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive."

SEE

Let us think, for a few moments, about our own personal history . . . the challenges and difficulties that have challenged our dreams and aspirations.

- [When did you have an experience that led you to doubt your faith?]
- Who lent you a friendly hand without judging you?
- Who or what helped you to express your pain and restore your hope? (p. 19)



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JUDGE

Getting involved means narrowing distances, building bridges, and going beyond one's own financial, cultural, educational, or migratory situation in order to reach out to the other. (p. 19)

- [What fields of social dialogue are within your scope of influence right now?]
- [Where can you expand your social engagement?] (See p. 19-20)

ACT

- How can [you] get involved in the lives of people in [your] community and in the peripheries, engaging young people in particular?
- What kinds of works and gestures should we[, as a community of faith,] carry out? (p. 20)

CELEBRATE

[If participating in your parish or community Encounter process, this celebration part will be done as a group. If using this as an individual reflection piece, spend a few moments in prayer to offer up your own praise, thanksgiving, and petitions to God.]

MISSIONARY ACTION

[Seek to encounter another person in a place you regularly visit, such as a place of work, a volunteer center, or a public space. It is best to do this in pairs. Introduce yourself to someone new and ask for permission to converse. Ask about their dreams and what makes them happy. Affirm what is good in their response.] (See p. 23)

Creating a Culture of Encounter

A GUIDE FOR JOYFUL MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

BILINGIAL

To order a copy of *Creating a Culture of Encounter* (Spanish/English) and begin the Encounter process in your parish or community, go to the USCCB store website at: http://store.usccb.org/creating-a-culture-of-encounter-p/7-629.htm.



