

Companion Worksheet

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

SESSION 4

“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 4: Bearing Fruits of New Life

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the fourth session of the Encounter process. In this session we will share about the fruits that our missionary action has produced since we started the process of the Encounter. We will reflect particularly about the fruits of friendship, joy, the Eucharist, and mission. (p. 32)

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:29-33a

“Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?” So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem.

SEE

Let us consider for a moment how our intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus has been the source of many fruits that make it possible for us to give witness as missionary disciples today.

- What are the spaces or moments when you feel closest to God and to his Son, Jesus Christ? (p. 34)

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JUDGE

We were created for the glory of God. And the nature of God is love, relationship. (p. 34)

- What fruits have grown in me as a result of my relationship with Jesus? (p. 35)
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ACT

Jesus' words are very clear: "By their fruits you will know them" (Mt 7:16). Christian witness cannot remain limited to words only, or mere good intentions. We need to act. (p. 36)

- [How do you act concretely on behalf of those in need?]
 - [How do you show the love of Christ to others]
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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

Make a missionary commitment to go to the peripheries of [your] local or global society.

- What can we [as a community of faith] do to make our missionary action real? (p. 39)
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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>.

