



Discipleship of Equals

Thursday 20 October 2005

Leaders/Moderators that will be at this meeting: Leaders/Moderators not at this meeting

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| • Alicia | - Lizzie |
| • Lauren | - Laura |
| • Sierra | - Emily |
| • Jessica | - Maureen |
| • Grace | |
| • Will | |
| • Claire | |
| • Mominee | |
| • Bro. Sean | |
| • Michael | |

Meeting Agenda

7:00-7:10 – Opening Prayer

- Definition of Discipleship of Equals (Lauren)
- Bible verse (Alicia) (Timothy 4:12)
- Play Song (Lauren)

7:10-7:30 – Skits (Claire) (see packet for who is in each skit)

- Sexism
- Racism
- Ageism
- Religious Discrimination

7:30-8:30 – Small Group

- Journal Questions
- Final Journal Questions (relates to changing the skits)
- Change your group's assigned skit to portray positive discipleship of equals
 - Alicia: Sexism
 - Lauren: Racism
 - Sierra: Ageism
 - Jessica: Religious Discrimination
 - Grace: Sexism
 - Claire: Racism
 - Will: Ageism

8:30-8:50 – Present New/Changed Skits

- By the Lifers in your small group

8:50-9:00 – Closing Prayer

- Play song again
- Prayer
 - Hope for the future
 - Optional sharing
- Final L.I.F.E. cheer

Opening Prayer (Discipleship of Equals)

1: Lauren

2: Alicia

3: Alexa

1: Good Evening, and welcome to tonight's LIFE meeting. Tonight's theme is discipleship of equals. Discipleship of equals is the concept that everyone has a voice, everyone's opinion is heard and respected. Think of a round table; it has no head. No one is above anyone else. In the larger picture of the Marianist family, the Brother is the director of the entire society, yet he treats everyone he encounters as an equal. At the round table, any one of us would be equally respected. This equality affirms that leadership and structure develop out of specific needs within the community, and for the benefit of the community. This is what Jesus demonstrated for us. He ate with tax collectors, prostitutes, and welcomed children. He didn't act above them, but rather, treated them with the same respect and dignity that he showed to everyone.

2: A reading from the book of Timothy. "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young; but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity."

Emily is producing cards with this passage on it. These cards will be distributed to the LIFErs at this time.

2: Alicia remind the LIFErs to hold onto these cards, they will need them in small group.

1: Take a moment, and reflect on this passage.

1: Introduction to the SONG:

We choose this song to illustrate that all have God inside of us because we are all made in the image and likeness of God. Therefore we are all equal, even though we have different gifts and talents. If God were one of us, this would mean that anyone of us could be God. How would that change the way in which we treat one another? Should that change the way in which we would treat one another?

(PLAY THEME SONG) "One of Us" by Joan Osbourne

3: Please take a moment and reflect on the song's message and how it relates to you and your life. This song poses the question... "What if God was one of us?"

- **How do you treat others if you knew they could be God? (Pause for reflection)**
- **Would you treat everyone with justice? Even the poor and outcast? (Pause for reflection)**
- **Do you recognize everyone as made in the image and likeness of God? (Pause for reflection)**

Sexism Skit

Setting: Outside “the gym”, after shooting “hoops”. Two guys just got done playing basketball. The two guys are standing around talking they should walk in the study hall room to start of the skit with the girl (Grace) walking behind them enough that it seems reasonable that they would talk about her without thinking that she could hear them.

* If the characters could bring sweat bands or other such silly props it could add some fun! *

Characters:

Will

Michael

Grace

(Grace should be standing close to them and some what listening in on their conversation)

Will: That game was so stupid! Grace shouldn't have been allowed on the court!

Michael: Yeah. She shouldn't have beaten us. I mean, girls can hardly dribble the ball, let alone actually play the game.

Will: I wonder what idiot let girls start playing basketball in the first place?

Michael: Some idiot!

(Grace should stand there with her head down acting offended)

If you have Sexism as your skit for your small group, you may decide to either make corrections to what occurs in this skit or you may create an entirely different skit that portrays a positive approach/solution to this problem. You should try and be as creative as possible and have fun with it!

Racism Skit

Setting- At a café, two girls sitting and gossiping about people. They are both being Drinking coffee and talking about people they don't like. They are both acting snobby and rude, unconcerned about what they sound like to the ongoing listener.

Characters:

Lauren

Claire

(Lauren and Claire should sip their “coffee” as they talk, with pinkies out)

Lauren: Well enough about Pricilla. If I talk about her anymore my head will explode.

Claire: Well then how about those Mexicans. Aren't they just awful creatures?

Lauren: Oh I know! Dreadful people. They smell and have bad accents. My gardener is Mexican. He always looks dirty.

Claire: I knew one back in high school. She was terrible. She was so lazy and never did her homework. I bet she is probably a maid or garbage person by now!

Lauren: Oh what is the world coming to!

If you have Racism as your skit for your small group, you may decide to either make corrections to what occurs in this skit or you may create an entirely different skit that portrays a positive approach/solution to this problem. You should try and be as creative as possible and have fun with it!

Ageism Skit

Setting- Two cars set up like the drawing below. One with one “old” person the other car with two “young” people. Old person is driving really slowly and some young people are driving past really quickly.

(do **NOT** read what is in the () just act it out)

Characters:

Jessica – young person

Sierra – young person

Mominee – old person

Jessica: Get out of my lane!

Sierra: Old people are so slow! (Yells at the old person) Get out of the left-hand lane!

Mominee: (Looks over and looks really sad) Why are all these young whippersnappers driving so crazy?

Jessica and Sierra: (start honking their horn)

Mominee: (Old person switches lanes)

Jessica: (“pass” on the left and shake a fist at the old person as they “pass”)

If you have Ageism as your skit for your small group, you may decide to either make corrections to what occurs in this skit or you may create an entirely different skit that portrays a positive approach/solution to this problem. You should try and be as creative as possible and have fun with it!

Religious Discrimination

Setting- Just after a life meeting. Three People are standing around talking about the L.I.F.E. meeting and what was happening.

Characters:

Alicia

Claire

Bro Sean

Alicia: LIFE was super awesome tonight!

Claire: Yeah, I thought so too, but, I was confused about one thing.

Bro Sean: What was that?

Claire: Well, Alexa was there.

Alicia: Yeah, so?

Claire: Isn't she Jewish?

Bro Sean: Yeah, I think so

Alicia: So why does that matter?

Claire: Well... What was she doing their?

Bro Sean: Yeah, I didn't get that either.

Claire: If she is Jewish, then she has nothing to offer at LIFE.

Bro Sean: I agree. They just shouldn't come.

Alicia: Yeah. It's a waste of time for them to come. They can't get anything from this kind of stuff anyway.

If you have Religious Discrimination as your skit for your small group, you may decide to either make corrections to what occurs in this skit or you may create an entirely different skit that portrays a positive approach/solution to this problem. You should try and be as creative as possible and have fun with it!

Small Group Stuff

Small Group Rooms:

- Alicia – Outside of chapel nook
- Lauren – T.V. Room
- Sierra – Chapel
- Jessica – Right Room
- Grace – Left Room
- Claire – Music Room
- Will – Living Room

Small Group Skit Assignments:

- Alicia – Sexism
- Lauren – Racism
- Sierra – Ageism
- Jessica – Religious Discrimination
- Grace – Sexism
- Claire – Racism
- Will – Ageism

Small Group

Read Bible Passage:

1 Timothy 4:12: Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

Discuss Questions:

1. What does discipleship of equals mean to you? Does it mean anything? Are you confused by it? How/What experiences have led you to this meaning something to you?
 2. Where do you see Discipleship of Equals demonstrated? In your family or community? Do you see it demonstrated?
 3. When have you felt like you were not in a community where discipleship of equals was demonstrated?
 4. When have you treated someone as an inferior?
 5. Have you ever felt that others acted superior to you? How did this make you feel?
 6. Do you believe that Jesus exemplified what living as a disciple of 'equalship' is about? Why or why not?
 7. How can you carry out this Marianist mission beyond your 'religious' or spiritual life? Do you feel called to do this? Why or why not? If so, why is this important?
 8. ***What is something thing you can do to create a discipleship of equals in your own community? How are you called to carry the message of Jesus and discipleship of equals out into the world?***
 - a. ***Please write your answer on the back of the Scripture passage you received on a card at the beginning of the meeting***
 - b. ***Remember that discipleship of equals means: All members of the community are equal. We have different and distinct roles but all are equal because we have all been created in the image and likeness of God.***
- With about 15 minutes left of small groups, you and your group need to come up with a positive result of the skit your group is assigned to. Or how can you change the skit around to promote a discipleship of equals.
 - You may decide to either make corrections to what occurs in your assigned skit or you may create an entirely different skit that portrays a positive approach/solution to your issue. You should try and be as creative as possible and have fun with it!
 - Also present a short statement, at the end of your skit, explaining how you changed the skit and why you changed the skit.

Discipleship of Equals
Journal Questions

- 1. What does discipleship of equals mean to you? Does it mean anything? Are you confused by it? How/what experiences have led this to mean something to you?*
- 2. Where do you see discipleship of equals demonstrated? In your family or community? Do you see it demonstrated?*
- 3. When have you felt like you were not in a community where discipleship of equals was demonstrated? How have you felt during this time?*
- 4. When have you treated someone as an inferior?*
- 5. Have you ever felt that others acted superior to you? How did this make you feel?*

6. *Do you believe that Jesus exemplified what living as a disciple of “equality” is about? Why or why not?*
7. *How can you carry out this Marianist mission beyond your religious or spiritual life? Do you feel called to do this? Why or why not? If so, why is this important?*
8. *What is something thing you can do to create a discipleship of equals in your own community? How are you called to carry the message of Jesus and discipleship of equals out into the world?*
- a. *Please write your answer on the back of the Scripture passage you received on a card at the beginning of the meeting*
 - b. *Remember that discipleship of equals means: All members of the community are equal. We have different and distinct roles but all are equal because we have all been created in the image and likeness of God.*

CLOSING PRAYER

- 1: Sierra
- 2: Will

1: We will now present the **revised** skits that you prepared in small groups. When I call your group leader, please come forward, and present your skit.
(NAME GROUPS)

2: Tonight, I invite you to share what you have written on the back of your cards. I will start by sharing what I have written. We will continue sharing around the circle. You can choose to share or you may pass to the next person.

Once everyone has finished sharing:

Closing Prayer

God, Thank you for the gifts and talents you have given us. May we share these gifts and talents with others in our community. Please help us to recognize your image and likeness in each person we meet. And challenge us to live out your message of equality and love in our daily lives. We offer this prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Announcements.

LIFE Cheer.