



## An Evangelization Experience

Two thousand years ago, the people who followed Jesus had an amazing spiritual awakening. They saw God's love when Jesus healed the sick and forgave sinners. They looked for the coming of God's kingdom when he preached, and they learned from him to call God *Abba*, Father. Today, Catholics can experience this same spiritual renewal as they follow Jesus.

"Missionary activity renews the Church, revitalizes faith and Christian identity, and offers fresh enthusiasm and new incentive. Faith is strengthened when it is given to others!" - *Pope John Paul II*

Jesus told his disciples: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19). This missionary command still holds true for us today. We too are bound to go and make disciples so all people may find fullness of life in Christ.

## For the Family

Families with children from pre-school age to teens can listen to the word of God together, do activities, grow closer to God, and have fun in the process. This part of Disciples in Mission ensures that families—who often find it difficult to participate in parish programs—are an integral part of this evangelization experience.

## For Small Groups

Groups meet six times during Lent to discuss the Sunday lectionary readings. The word of God will come alive, and you will be able to relate it to your everyday life. Joining a group is a great way to enter fully into Lent and to prepare for Easter.

## For Teens

The evangelization of teens, and teens sharing their faith, happens best in Christian community. In our parish this community is currently being experienced by teens participating in our Godparent program. For those teens who are not involved in the Godparent program, but desire to participate in *Disciples in Mission*, groups will be formed.

## How It Works

*Disciples in Mission* will run for the next three years in our parish. Each year will follow the basic process presented below, and builds on the accomplishments of the previous year.

### Before Lent

- Prayer campaign in the parish and the diocese.

### Lent

- Faith-sharing groups meet.
- Family activities carried out.
- Special homilies on evangelization given.
- Bulletin inserts based on *Go and Make Disciples* distributed.

### Easter Season

- The Parish Reflection Day affirms evangelizing ministries in the parish and surfaces new ideas for the future.

### Summer/Fall/Winter

- Attentive to the life and mission of Christ, the parish plans and carries out evangelizing activities.

### Late Fall

- Parish leaders reflect on their experience with *Disciples in Mission* and plan the next year.

Loving God,  
you called us each by name  
and gave your only Son to redeem us.  
In your faithfulness,  
you sent the Holy Spirit  
to complete the mission of Jesus  
among us.

Open our hearts to Jesus.  
Give us the courage to speak his name  
to those who are close to us  
and the generosity to share his love  
with those who are far away.

We pray that every person  
throughout the world  
be invited to know and love Jesus  
as Savior and Redeemer.  
May they come to know his  
all-surpassing love.  
May that love transform every element  
of our society.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.  
Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

St. Paul the Apostle, pray for us.

A PRAYER FOR  
DISCIPLES IN MISSION  
DISCIPLES  
IN MISSION