

# *The Church Evangelizing!*

## Discipleship Group Facilitator Training



**You are my friends if you do what I command you.  
I no longer speak of you as slaves,  
because a slave does not know what his master is about.**

**I have called you friends  
because I have told you everything  
I heard from my Father.**

**It was not you who chose me,  
but I who chose you and appointed you to go  
and to bear fruit that will remain.**

**So that, whatever you ask the Father  
in my name he may give you.**

**This is my commandment to you.**

**Love one another.**

# Schedule for the Workshop

Prayer: 10 minutes

Session One: 30 minutes

Small Groups: 30 minutes

Break: 10 minutes

Session Two: 30 minutes

# *The Church Evangelizing!*

## Facilitator Training

### Goals

- Understand the theological basis of discipleship groups
- Provide an overview of the *Church Evangelizing!*
- Be introduced to *Lectio divina*
- Learn the do's and don'ts of healthy small group dynamics
- Learn three models for studying the pastoral letter
- Become familiar with resources for the NE

# Why Discipleship Groups?



- Jesus instructed us to do so. “Wherever two or more are gathered . . .”
- Personal relationship enhance spiritual growth
- Christian fellowship builds friendship
- Small groups provide accountability
- Learning the faith is an intimate experience
- Small groups provide faithful intercessors

*The Church Evangelizing!*  
Overview



# Do's and Don'ts of Small Groups





- Facilitation is a service not a platform
- *Lectio divina* (p. 6)
- Active listening (p. 6)
- Dealing with alpha personalities
- Safety and confidentiality
- Not a time for catechetical instruction
- Cultivating the Gifts of the Spirit
- Praying with and for each other



Let's Practice



# Section 1

Listening to the text

Sharing responses to the questions

*Sharing responses to questions is a sacred act, therefore, give and receive insights with reverence. If someone chooses not to share, honor that. Silence is a response.*

*Just as we listen to the text with reverence, we listen to the responses to the questions by one another with reverence, wonder and awe.*

***The Church Evangelizing!***  
is more than a letter;  
Its a movement.



# Reading and reflecting in small faith sharing groups

- *Circle of friends at the parish*
- *Circle of friends in homes*
- *Circle of friends wherever*
- *Circle of friends retreat*

# Resources for The New Evangelization



Beyond Lent

Multiplying the Loaves



[www.churchevangelizing.com](http://www.churchevangelizing.com)

#friends4Jesus