

STAFF DISCUSSION

Going Deeper

PART #1

Scripture Reflection

STEP ONE

As a staff, take a few moments to sit in total silence. Silence is a rare commodity and central to how God speaks with us.

STEP TWO

After some time in silence, have one person read the following scripture aloud:

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke Chapter 15

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

STEP THREE

Now, take a few moments in silence and then read it one more time.

Questions for Discussion

STEP ONE

What does this parable reveal about the dignity of every human person in the eyes of God?

STEP TWO

Do you think that your school is currently a place where students, "...sense their dignity even before they have a definition for it"? What things make this likely or unlikely? What needs to change or what more can be done?



"The defense and promotion of the human person's dignity have been entrusted to us by the Creator."

SOLLICITUDO REI SOCIALIS #47

STAFF DISCUSSION

Going Deeper

PART #2

STEP ONE

Take a moment to read the following quote from the Church documents:

“Only in the mystery of the Incarnate Word does the mystery of the human person take on light.” (Gaudium et Spes Paragraph 22)

STEP TWO

The fact that Christ became human is utterly central to the Gospel and to the whole of salvation history. What does his decision to do this reveal about his care for every person and about the dignity of each person?



“Of all visible creatures only man is “able to know and love his creator.” He is “the only creature on earth that God has

willed for its own sake,” and he alone is called to share, by knowledge and love, in God’s own life. It was for this end

that he was created, and this is the fundamental reason for his dignity:

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH #356

Closing Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the incredible opportunity to help students, “...sense their dignity even before they have definition for it.”

Give us the grace and strength even in difficult moments to see every student and also each other as colleagues, as a person that has been created in your image with incredible value, dignity and worth.

Helps us to build a special community here that truly celebrates the unique existence, gifts and potential of every member.

Help us also to grow ever more deeply aware of our own dignity in your image. Helps us overcome the wounds of pain and rejection in our pasts that cloud us coming to know the truth of your love for us.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen