

St. Jude Ministry Retreat

Franklin, Virginia

October 12, 2019

Start with "Take My Life" by Caleb & Kelsey

1. **Ministry as Sacrament** – What is sacrament? Efficacious sign, instituted by Christ, entrusted to the Church, to give grace.
 - a. Talk about our different roles as ministry leaders or participants
 - b. Do we identify ourselves as sacrament to those we serve?
 - c. Our primary role in ministry is to be a conduit of grace
 - d. In what ways is your ministry a conduit of grace?
 - e. Talk about my ministry as Deacon – Word (RCIA & Bible Study), Altar (Recognizing all the beauty in Mass), Charity (Visiting the sick and homebound (Linda Odell Story) or just taking the time to stop and talk with someone – Junius Story)
2. **Ministry as Mission** - What are the different ministries represented here today?
 - a. List them out on a board
 - b. Break out into groups (15 mins) - Identify the key elements of mission(s)
 - c. Re-assemble - have each group quickly share key elements
 - d. Talk about Mission, Identity, Jesus
 - i. Tell Cursillo Leader Story and Middle School JYG Story

- ii. Share the Story of Mary and Martha (Read Luke 10:38-42)
- iii. Read the Litany of Humility – A go to prayer for me!
- e. We need to flip the script – Jesus, Identity, Mission (Sing *“You are the Source”*)
- f. Break out into groups (15 mins) – How can we put Jesus first within the context of our ministry?
- g. Re-assemble – have each group share their “revised” mission elements

3. **Ministry as Baptism** – What does it mean to be baptized? (Sing *“Lord, I Need You”*)

- a. Priest – Bridging the Gap between humanity and divinity
 - i. How do you do this in your ministry?
- b. Prophet – Speaking the truth of the Gospel
 - i. How do you do this in your ministry?
- c. King – Jesus came not to be served but to serve
 - i. How do you do this in your ministry?
- d. Break out into groups to discuss how you live out your baptismal call in your ministry
- e. Re-assemble – have each group share their Priest, Prophet, King discussion

4. **Ministry as Confirmation** – **What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?** (Play *“Holy Spirit”*)

- a. **Wisdom** is both the knowledge of and judgment about “divine things” and the ability to judge and direct human affairs according to divine truth

- b. **Understanding** is penetrating insight into the very heart of things, especially those higher truths that are necessary for our eternal salvation—in effect, the ability to “see” God
- c. **Counsel** allows a man to be directed by God in matters necessary for his salvation
- d. **Fortitude** denotes a firmness of mind in doing good and in avoiding evil, particularly when it is difficult or dangerous to do so, and the confidence to overcome all obstacles, even deadly ones, by virtue of the assurance of everlasting life
- e. **Knowledge** is the ability to judge correctly about matters of faith and right action, so as to never wander from the straight path of justice
- f. **Piety** is, principally, revering God with filial affection, paying worship and duty to God, paying due duty to all men on account of their relationship to God, and honoring the saints and not contradicting Scripture. The Latin word *pietas* denotes the reverence that we give to our father and to our country; since God is the Father of all, the worship of God is also called piety
- g. **Fear of God** is, in this context, “filial” or chaste fear whereby we revere God and avoid separating ourselves from him—as opposed to “servile” fear, whereby we fear punishment
- h. Charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity (kindness), goodness, longanimity (forbearance), mildness (gentleness), faith, modesty, continency (self-control), and chastity

- i. Break out into groups – What fruits are missing in your ministry basket?
- ii. How can we better bring about these fruits?
- iii. Reassemble to discuss.

5. Ministry as Eucharist – What does Eucharist mean? –
Thanksgiving!

- a. Source and Summit of our Faith
- b. Earlier we talked about putting Jesus first in our ministry
- c. We must awaken our faith in the Eucharist!
- d. Adoration – tell story of Tyler and Marc
- e. The Eucharist is what drives our ministry (Tell story of consuming Jesus at end of weekend)
- f. Sing “*You are so beautiful*”
- g. Receiving the Eucharist – we cannot allow our ministries to replace our faith
 - i. Break out into groups – what does the Eucharist mean to you?
 - ii. How can the Eucharist strengthen your ministry?
 - iii. Reassemble to discuss

Let’s end where we began – each of you is sacrament

Your ministry is a call to grow closer to Christ and to help others to do the same.

Close with “*Live with Abandon*” by the Newsboys (get everyone pumped up). This is what our ministry is all about!