



Community for the Kingdom
St. Joseph Catholic Church

The Vision:

Individuals gathering in small groups in family homes to strengthen our relationship with Christ and each other, and build compassionate communities to bring about the Kingdom of God in the world.

Rules for Facilitators

- Establish a positive and welcoming environment.
- Follow the 7 steps.
- Keep your group on topic.
- Encourage participation and acknowledge that silence is acceptable & sacred.
- Review the ground rules of being in the group. See below.
- Stay neutral on the content.
- Listen actively and prayerfully.
- Don't expect perfection. Let the group evolve.

Rules for Participants

- Keep a positive and welcoming attitude.
- Be present in the moment.
- Stay focused on the topic of the group.
- Participate as you are comfortable; accept that other members may be silent. Remember, silence is sacred, too.
- Follow the ground rules set by the facilitator.
- Neither affirm nor judge other comments in the group.
- Listen actively and prayerfully.
- Respect the confidentiality of the group.

Community for the Kingdom Seven Steps

Sharing the Bible is more than a method of interpreting Scripture. It is a way in which Christ Himself speaks through His Word, meets people and makes them part of His Body.

Welcome – sitting down with Christ – We welcome Christ who is in our midst. We realize that He is the one who has invited us.

Facilitator: Let's spend some time centering ourselves and reminding ourselves the Risen Lord is in our midst:

Who would like to welcome Christ in their own words?

Reading – hearing God's Word – We give expression to God's Word through our own voices. Each voice conveys His Word.

Facilitator: Who would like to read out loud the scripture passage? (Pause in between readings)

Who would like to read the passage for a second time?

Abiding – discovering hidden treasure – We let God's Word speak to us. Christ speaks within us.

Facilitator: We are now going to speak out certain words or short phrases three times. Each time we will pause briefly.

Silence – being aware of God's presence – We are silent together. Now God can speak within us.

Facilitator: Let's be silent for 3 minutes so that God can speak to us.

Sharing – meeting with God together, through the others.

We share what God is saying through us.

The Body of Christ can now grow among us.

Facilitator: Which word or phrase spoke to you?

Let us share the things that have touched our hearts.

Be mindful not to comment on or affirm others' comments.

Action – letting ourselves be inspired by God's Word

"What is the specific purpose for which we are sent?"

Decision-making as a communal process of spiritual discernment.

Facilitator: We are now going to share what God is calling us to do either individually or as a group.

Prayer – Having thought and talked about things, we are now going to put them before the Father again.

This is the common priesthood of all believers.

Facilitator: Let us pray. Anyone who wants to, is welcome to pray freely in their own words.

After each intention, say, "We pray to the Lord."

Everyone will respond, "Lord, hear our prayer".

(Then:) Let's finish with a prayer which we all know by heart.