

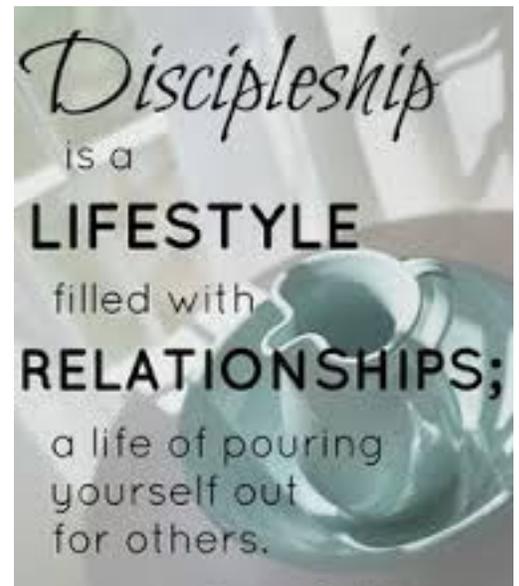
# Saint Boniface Parish

## Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **Matthew 16:21-27**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."



## What in this age is an obstacle to me being a disciple?

#### **First Grade**

If we are going to be a disciple of Jesus, we need people to show us how to do that, and it is difficult when we don't. Who are the people in your life that help you to know Jesus? What are some things that they do that you can also do to be a disciple of Jesus? How can you ask them for help to be a disciple? Who are some friends that you can help to know God?

#### **Second Grade**

Going to Mass and receiving the Sacraments is an important part to being a disciple of Jesus. This means paying attention and participating in the Mass each week. What is your favorite part of Mass? Why do you like it? What is the hardest part about being at Mass? What can you do to help yourself to overcome it and participate and pray more?

#### **Third and Fourth Grades**

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus rebuke St. Peter because he tries to stop Jesus from doing the difficult thing. How does being a disciple mean that we have to choose the difficult path sometimes? When was a time that you choose the difficult option and it was the right choice? When was a time that you chose the easy option and it was the wrong choice?

#### **Fifth and Sixth Grades**

Questions are a wonderful thing but can be an obstacle to discipleship when we don't find the answers. What are five questions you have about God or the Catholic Church/Faith? Who are the people that you could ask? List at least three people. When will you ask them? If one person doesn't know the answer keep asking people until you find the answer.

#### **Seventh and Eighth Grades**

Peer pressure from other people can be an obstacle to being a disciple of Jesus. Who are the people in your life that are a good example for you? How can you choose to be around these people more? Are your friends good examples of disciples? Do they help you to do the right thing or tempt you to do the wrong thing? Are you a good example for your friends?

#### **High School and Adults**

When we are too busy, that can be an obstacle to being a disciple. Being a disciple takes a commitment of time for prayer. Do you think that you have enough time in your day or are you always rushing and feel like you are behind? How much time during the day do you take to pray and talk with God? What can you do to increase it by five minutes?

# For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

## Monday

One obstacle that many people struggle with is that we feel like we don't have enough time in the day to get everything done and to take time to pray and talk with God. Today, look at how you spend your day to see if you really do have time and need to make pray a priority or if you are doing too many things and need to cut back on something.

## Tuesday

Even when we want to be a disciple, it can be difficult to do because of fears that we have - fears of not being good enough or fears or changes that we think/know we will need to make. Today, think about what fears are holding you back from following Christ more closely as His disciple. What do you need to do to overcome those fears?

## Wednesday

Questions are wonderful because they show that we are thinking. However, questions can become an obstacle if we don't find the true answers. Today, make a list of questions you have about God and the Church. Then, this week, bring them to someone who you think can help you find the answers. Don't stop until you have the answers!

## Thursday

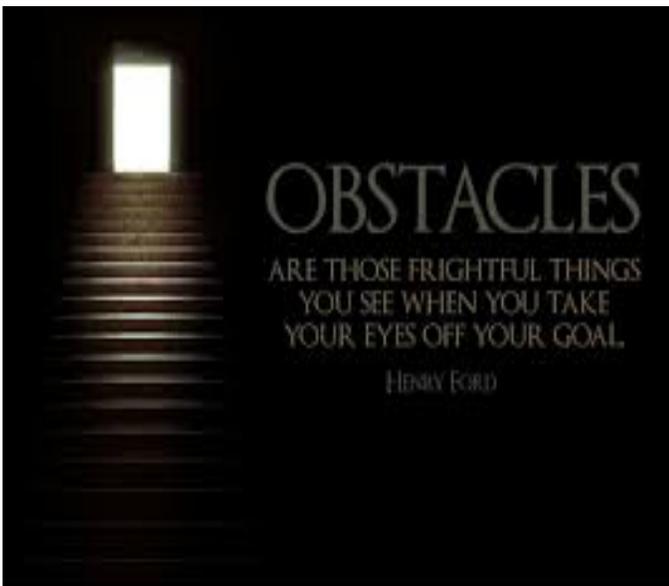
Other people in our lives can be obstacles for us if they are not trying to be a disciple in the same way that we are. Today, talk with someone who is trying to be a disciple and ask them to pray with you once a week. Also, think about the people that are a distraction for you and lead you to do wrong things. What do you need to do to not let them be an obstacle for you?

## Friday

There is a lot of false information about God and the Catholic Church out there. This can be an obstacle for people because then they believe lies and not the truth. Today, think about what things you may not like about the Catholic Church. Where did you learn them? Are they true? Talk with someone to find out what the Catholic Church really teaches.

## Saturday

The biggest obstacle to be a disciple of Jesus is holding onto our sin. We all make mistakes and need forgiveness, but when we avoid Confession it makes it difficult to follow Jesus as His disciple. Today, think about your choices and make a list of what you have done wrong so that you can apologize and receive God's mercy. Then, go to Confession!



## FROM THE CATECHISM...

The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it: 'All however must be prepared to confess Christ before men and to follow Him along the way of the Cross, amidst the persecutions which the Church never lacks.'

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1816

## Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). Use the calendar on the right.

**Ezekiel 33:7-9 Psalm 95:1-2,6-7,8-9 Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20**

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email [admin@lynnccatholic.org](mailto:admin@lynnccatholic.org)