

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP - DAY 1 - WIN

Parish Mission
St. Anne, Oswego
March 10, 2019

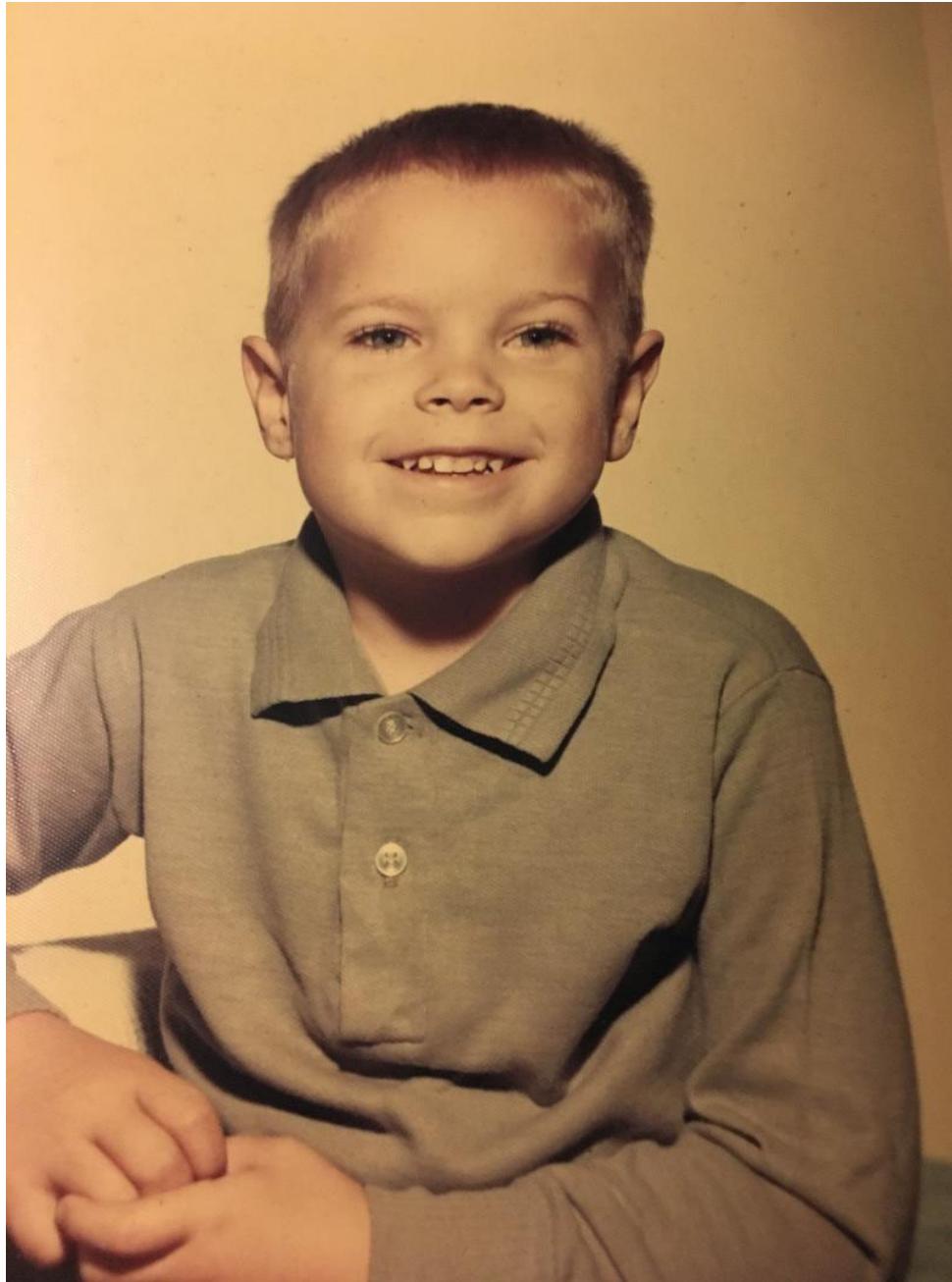
PRAYER - MATTHEW 9:9-13



BIG QUESTIONS

- Who am I?
- Who is God?
- What is my purpose?
- What matters most/least?

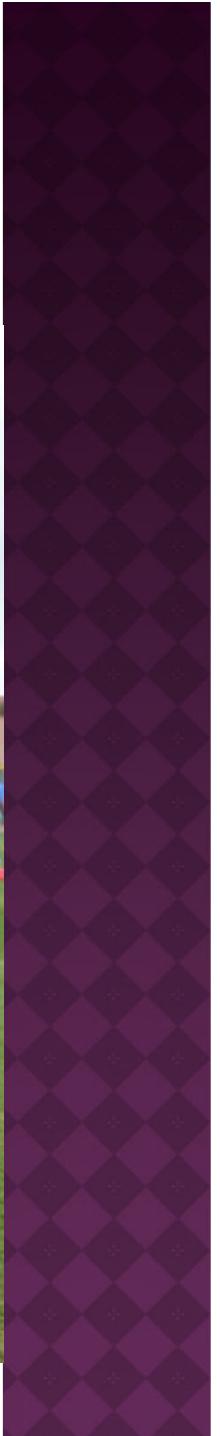
MY STORY PRIOR TO PROVIDENCE



CONVERSION / IDENTITY / RIM



SPIRITUAL SPRING TRAINING



GOALS / VISION

- **Baseball players**
 - Personal - all-star, hall-of-fame
 - Team - pennant, World Series

- **Disciples of Jesus**
 - Personal - saint, heaven
 - Team - share the Gospel, help everyone get to heaven
 - Matthew Kelly - “Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity”

- Best coaches laid out a vision...

JESUS IS THE GREATEST COACH - MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

- Matthew 28:19 - “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...”
- “I dream of a ‘missionary option;,, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything...for the evangelization of today’s world...” (Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 27)
- What is your dream for your parish or apostolate?

PRIORITY - CHANGE THE CULTURE

- Programs are important, but people are more important
- Everything begins to change when a culture of missionary disciples is established

THREE HABITS OF MISSIONARY DISCIPLES (CURTIS MARTIN)

- Divine intimacy
- Authentic friendship
- Spiritual multiplication

DIVINE INTIMACY

- Evangelization is the work of God, not us
- Fruitful only to the extent we are abiding in deep union with the Holy Trinity
- “He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit.” (John 15:5)
- “Father,... this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” (CCC prologue)
- this is the only definition of eternal life in Scripture and it is defined by RELATIONSHIP

TO KNOW

- Spanish - saber vs. conocer
- English - to know
- Jesus - Aramaic - “yada” = deep, intimate, life-long life-giving, covenantal love.
- God’s desire is that we live in abiding union with the Trinity in this way.
- Right knowledge and right practice are important, but we are made for “intimate and vital” union with God (CCC 29)

TRANSFORMATION

- Through regular, personal encounters with Jesus, we are transformed.
- Early Church Fathers - cold rod in hot fire
- Acts 2:42 - essential practices of the disciples
 - 1) The Apostles' Teachings (renewal of our minds)
 - 2) The Breaking of the Bread (Sacraments - grace)
 - 3) Fellowship - grow in virtue
 - 4) Prayer - come to know Jesus intimately

AUTHENTIC FRIENDSHIP

“So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.”
(1 Thessalonians 2:8)

“An evangelizing community gets involved by word and deed in peoples’ daily lives...”
(Evangelii Gaudium 24)

Jesus went out to the people; He didn’t wait for people to come to Him.



POWER OF PERSONAL INVESTMENT

- Do we invest time in the lives of people outside of our encounters here at church?
- St. John Paul II - meals, singing, plays, hiking, camping, kayaking with people
- Relationships go beyond programs, calls for more investment on our part

CLARITY AND CONVICTION ABOUT SPIRITUAL MULTIPLICATION

- Divine intimacy breathes life into us so that it is God's work and not our own
- Authentic friendship is the setting in which we do evangelization (relational, not a program)
- Spiritual multiplication - clarity that this is the most effective way to make disciples of all nations, and conviction that we must prioritize these relationships.
- Modeled after Jesus - invest heavily in a few people and then teach them to do the same

2 TIMOTHY 2:2 PRINCIPLE

- ⦿ “...what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 2:2)
- ⦿ First generation: Paul → Timothy
- ⦿ Second generation: Timothy → Timothy’s disciples
- ⦿ Third generation: Timothy’s disciples → their disciples

YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

- Oswego - 34,571 population (2016)
- St. Anne - 2,300 families (approx. 7,000 people)
- First generation: 1 → 3
- Second generation: 3 → 9
- Third generation: 9 → 27
- Eight generation: 2,187 → 6,561
- Ninth generation: 6,561 → 19,683
- Tenth generation: 19,683 → 59,049
- 22nd generation: whole world is covered
- Takes 6 to 18 months to have someone ready to be ready to spiritually multiply

JESUS' METHOD

- Win
- Build (Monday)
- Send (Tuesday)

WIN: LEADING SOULS TO ENCOUNTER CHRIST

- Lead people to life-changing encounters with Jesus Christ
- Like Jesus went to the tax-collector's post to call Matthew
- "...the vital core of the new evangelization must be a clear and unequivocal proclamation of the person of Jesus Christ, that is, the preaching of his name, his teaching, his life, his promises and the Kingdom which he has gained for us by his Paschal Mystery." (St. John Paul II, *Ecclesia in America*, 66)

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT?

- ◉ Going to Mass, believing in right doctrines, saying some prayers, avoiding serious sin are important, but God wants more than just following rules.
- ◉ Am I living in relationship with Jesus Christ?
- ◉ John 10:10 - “I came so that you might have life, and have it abundantly.”
- ◉ Are you living the abundant life?

ENCOUNTERS



ENCOUNTERS WITH CHRIST

- Acts 2:42 - essential practices of the disciples
- 1) The Apostles' Teachings (renewal of our minds)
- 2) The Breaking of the Bread (Sacraments - grace)
- 3) Fellowship - grow in virtue (saints come in groups)
- 4) Prayer - come to know Jesus intimately

WINNING HEARTS FOR CHRIST

- “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.” (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 41)
- 1) our lives must be a witness of the love and mercy of God.
- 2) share our very selves (authentic friendship)
- 3) share the Gospel message - “Preaching, the verbal proclamation of the message is indeed always indispensable.” (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 42)

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

- *The good news* - you were created to be amazing!
- St. Catherine of Siena - “If you are what you were meant to be, you would set the world on fire.”
- God loved you into existence.
- Deacon Ron - “you are good, you are beautiful, and you are loved”

BAD NEWS

- *The bad news* - Sin has wounded you and separated you from God.
- “I want what I want when I want it.”
- The fall was universal - “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)
- The fall was severe - “for the wages of sin is death.” (Romans 6:23)
- There was a chasm between humanity and God that no human could bridge.
- CS Lewis - joy and misery

EVEN BETTER NEWS

- John 3:16 - the Gospel message - “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”
- The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is God’s remedy for our sin (see Acts 4:12)
- Jesus’ brutal death on the cross shows how severe and ugly our sin is.
- It also shows the depth of His love for us

DISCIPLES HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION

- ◉ Brings us to a place of decision
 - Continue down the empty path of destruction
 - Follow Jesus and His path toward peace, joy and true happiness

JORDAN RIVER

New identity as
beloved sons and
daughters (RIM)

My story of the
baptism of Jesus



NEXT STEPS

- Monday
 - How do we build missionary disciples like Jesus did with the Twelve?

- Tuesday
 - Go make disciples. Become disciple makers.

RESOURCES

- My blog - www.frburke23.wordpress.com
- Retreats - www.gamechangersfts.org
- Men's ministry -
www.fishersofmenonline.com
- Books & other resources
 - 'The Activated Disciple' by Jeff Cavins
 - 'Making Missionary Disciples' by Curtis Martin
 - 'Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission' by Fr. James Mallon
 - www.amazingparish.org