



THE CALL

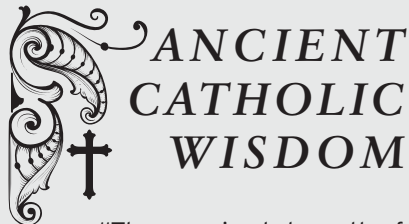
PREPARATION:

- Read Chapter 1, pages 13–15, “The Call”, in “Stewardship, A Disciple’s Response.”
- Read the suggested Scripture passages shown in this chapter.

Gathering and Opening Prayer

- Participants gather around a Bible and a lighted candle.
- Open in prayer by singing a hymn that is known to your group or by praying Psalm 139:1-6 together.

Lord, you have examined me and you know me. You know everything I do; from far away you understood all my thoughts. You see me, whether I am working or resting; you know all my actions. Even before I speak, you already know what I will say. You are all around me on every side; you protect me with your power. Your knowledge of me is too deep; it is beyond my understanding. —Psalm 139:1-6



ANCIENT CATHOLIC WISDOM

“The promised strength of the Holy Spirit, which you are about to receive, will make you more like Christ and help you to be witnesses to His suffering, death, and resurrection. It will strengthen you to be active members of the Church and to build up the Body of Christ.”

*From the “Invitation”,
Liturgy of Confirmation*

The Word of God

Read aloud one of the following Scripture passages:

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| Mark 1:16-20 | The call of the first disciples |
| John 1:35-42 | The first disciples |
| Acts 9:1-19 | Saul’s conversion |

Take a few moments for silent reflection, and then share your thoughts on the following questions:

1. How is the call to be a disciple personal? How is the call to be a disciple communal?
2. Is there a difference between being a disciple and being a church member?
3. Describe your own call to follow Jesus. Did it take place at a specific moment or over a period of time?

**Studying the Pastoral Letter:
“Stewardship, A Disciple’s Response”**

After reading Chapter 1, pages 13–15, please share your reflections and insights on the following questions:

1. “Christians must be stewards of their personal vocations.” What does this phrase mean to you? Describe your “personal vocation.”
2. What is the “cost of discipleship” where you live and work?
3. How is Christian Stewardship much more than the sharing of time, talent and treasure?

“If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it.”

John 13:17

In light of our study of the selections from the Scriptures and Chapter 1 of the Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, suggest some positive steps toward making Stewardship more a part of day-to-day life as a Catholic. Use the suggested 3-step process.

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| <p>3-STEP PROCESS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In sacred silence, allow the Holy Spirit to teach your heart and to guide your actions.2. Identify where in your work, relationships, or personal time you are challenged to apply what you have learned in this session.3. Write a few words as a reminder to yourself. |
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Reflection Notes:

After a moment of silence, participants may share their insights with one another.

Closing with Ritual Prayer

A reading from the First Letter of St. Peter:

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
– 1Peter 2:4-5, 9

Silent Reflection

Using the lighted candle, each participant presents the candle to another and says to that person:

You were called out of darkness into God's wonderful light.

The person receiving the lighted candle answers:

Amen.

Take a moment of silence.

As a group, pray either the *Lord's Prayer* or the *Steward's Prayer* (found on the inside front cover).



PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT SESSION

Please read Chapter 2: "Jesus' Way" in Stewardship, A Disciple's Response.