



From Classroom to Mission: Creating Evangelizing Catechesis

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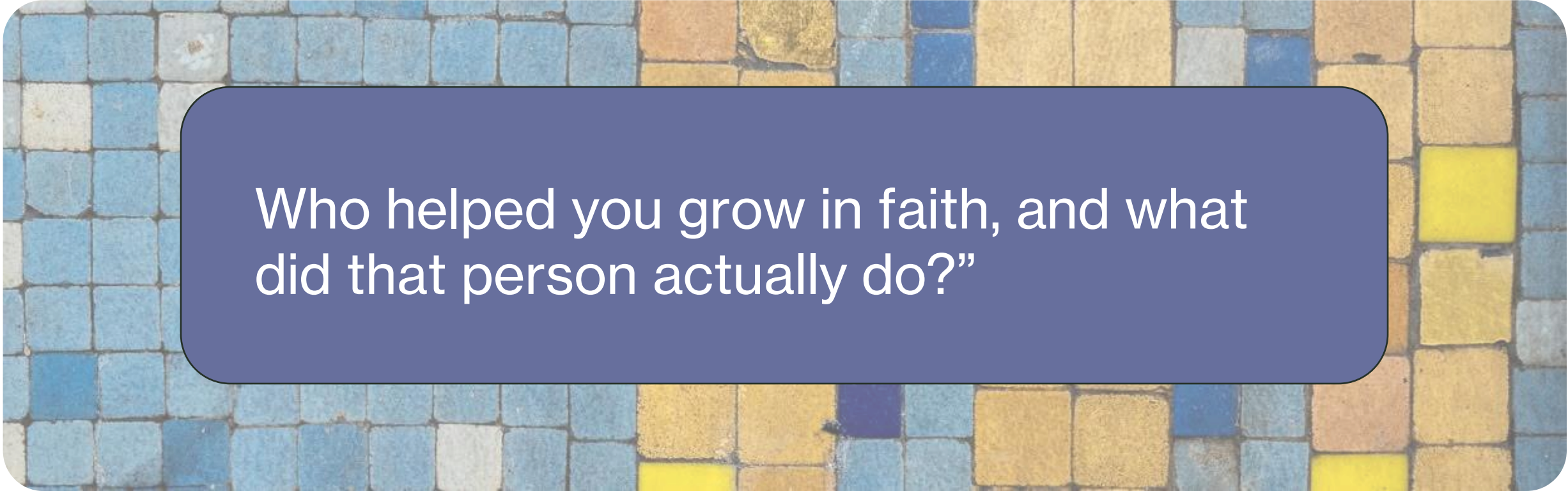
Goal

- Learners will explore how catechesis can move beyond the transmission of religious information toward **encounter with Christ, reflection on lived experience, deeper discipleship, and missionary living.**

- Think of someone who helped you come to know God – not necessarily someone who taught you the most religious information, but someone who helped you experience God's love, recognize God's presence, or see your life differently.”



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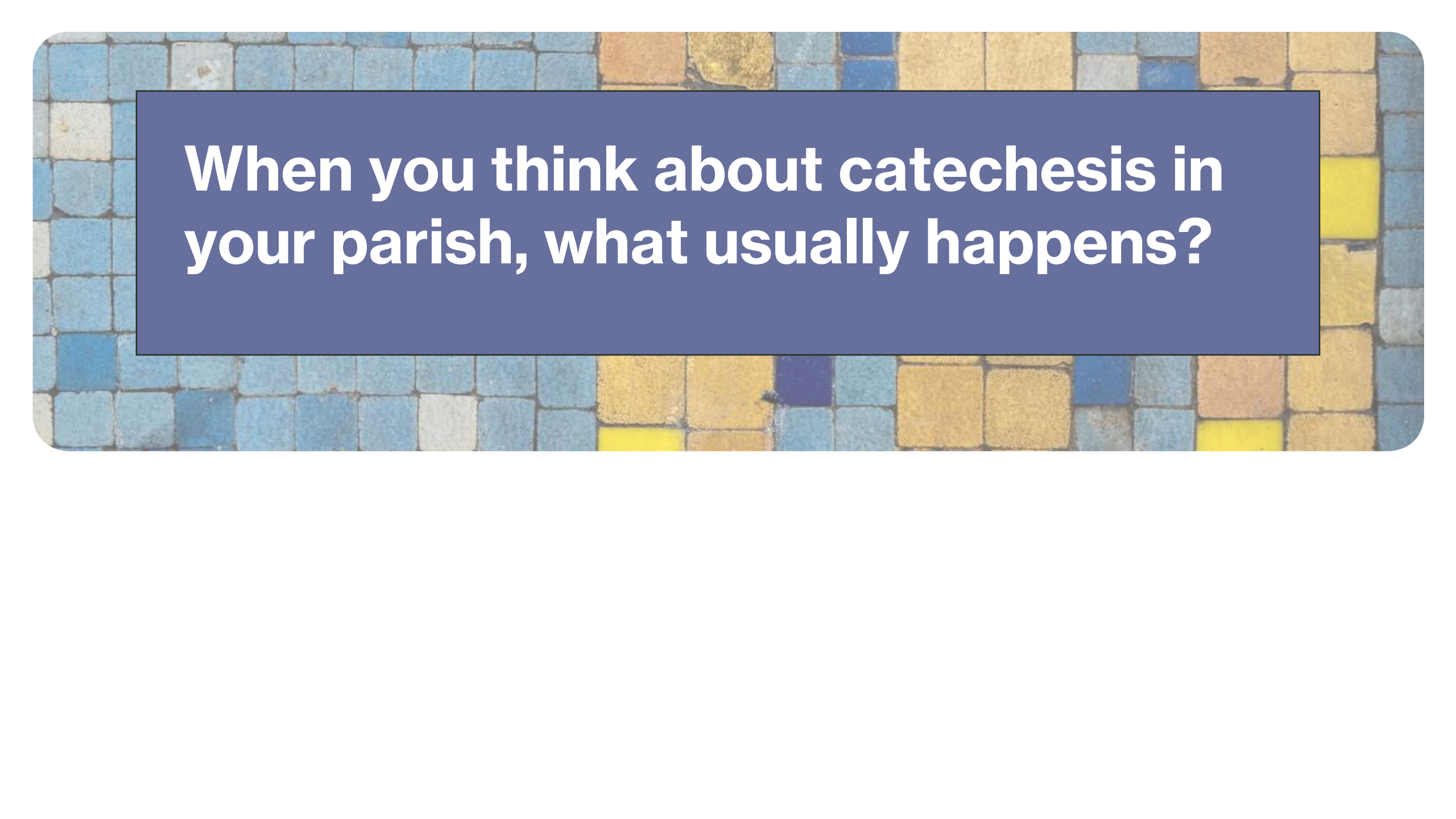
Who helped you grow in faith, and what did that person actually do?"



Opening Prayer



1 What are we doing?



When you think about catechesis in your parish, what usually happens?



**When you think about catechesis in
your parish, what usually happens?**

Information Experience Relationship Mission

Where are you?

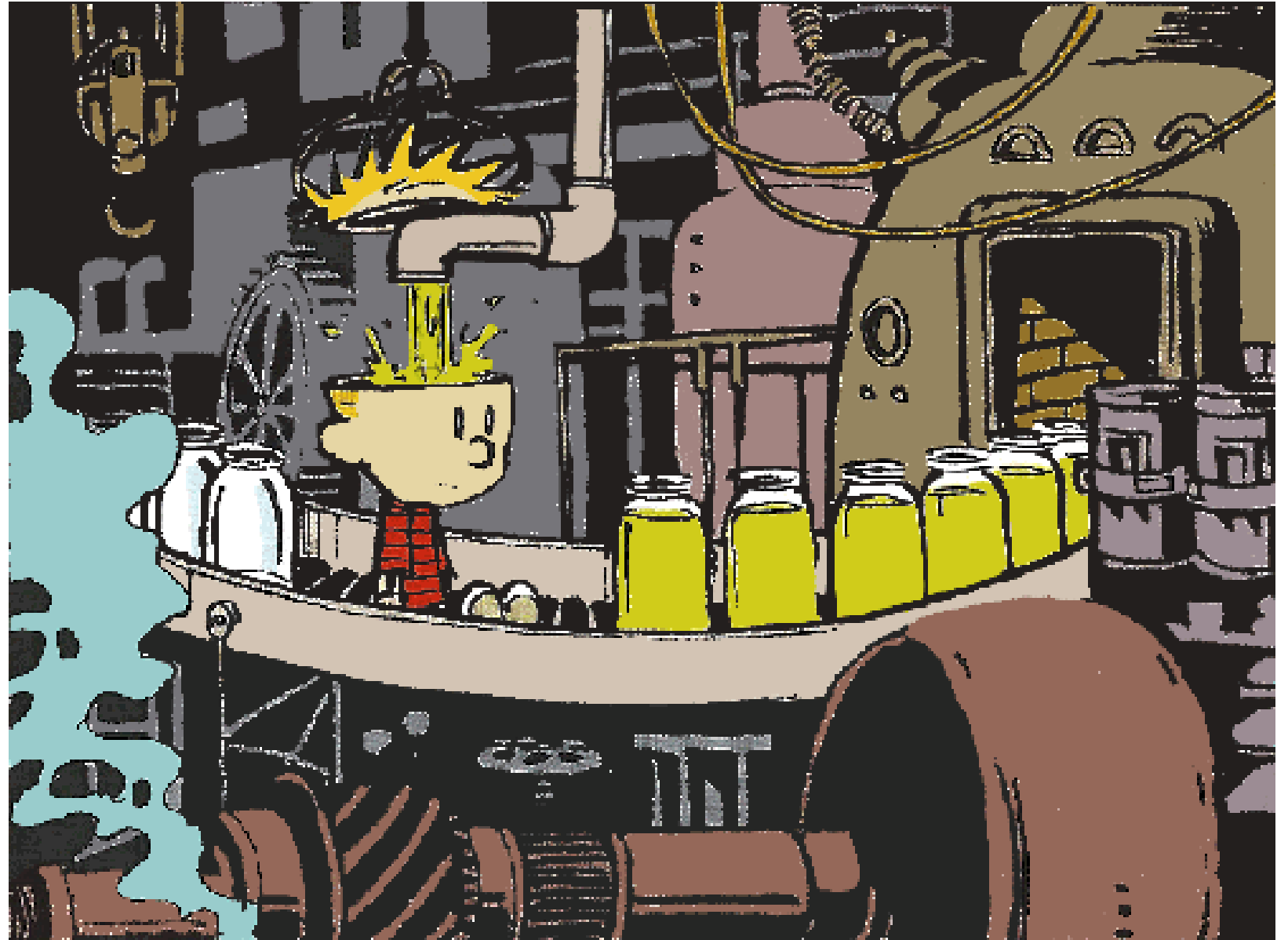
Mostly Information ← — — — — → **Mostly Mission**

Small Group Reflection

- Think about a catechetical experience that really worked. What made it effective?
- Think about a catechetical experience that did not work particularly well. What was missing?
- What do people actually remember from our catechesis?
- When have you seen someone move from **learning about Christianity to actually living Christianity?**
- What made that transition possible?

What did you learn?

Catechesis is not simply about putting information into someone's head. It is about helping a person respond to God's invitation with the whole of his or her life.



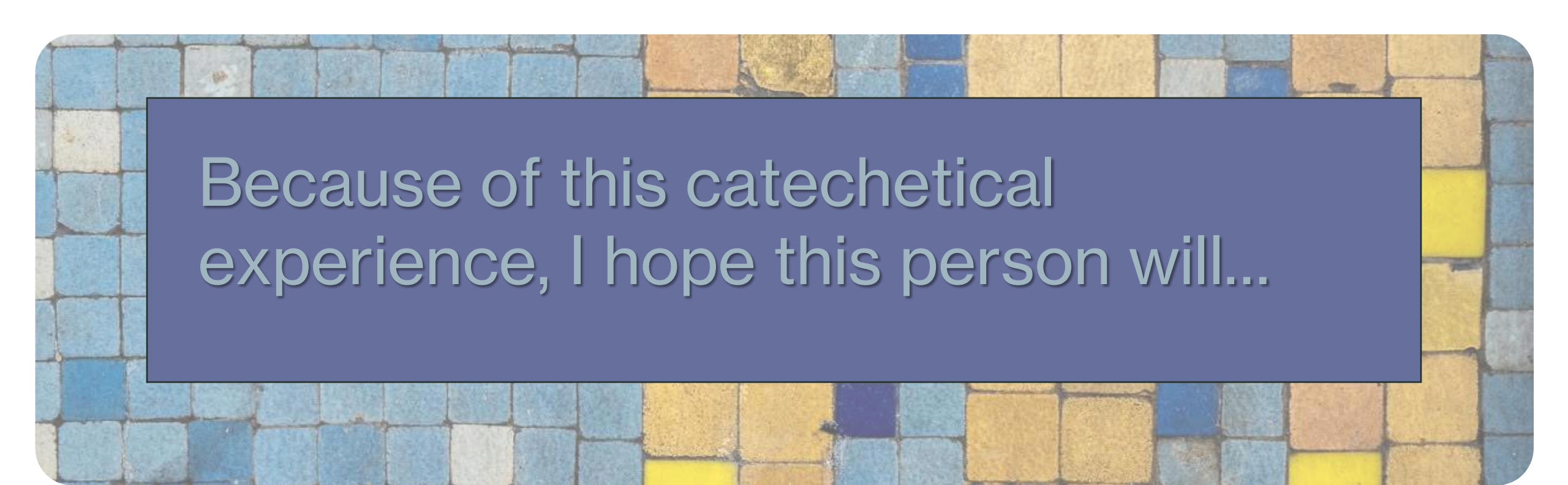


2 Why do we do it this way?

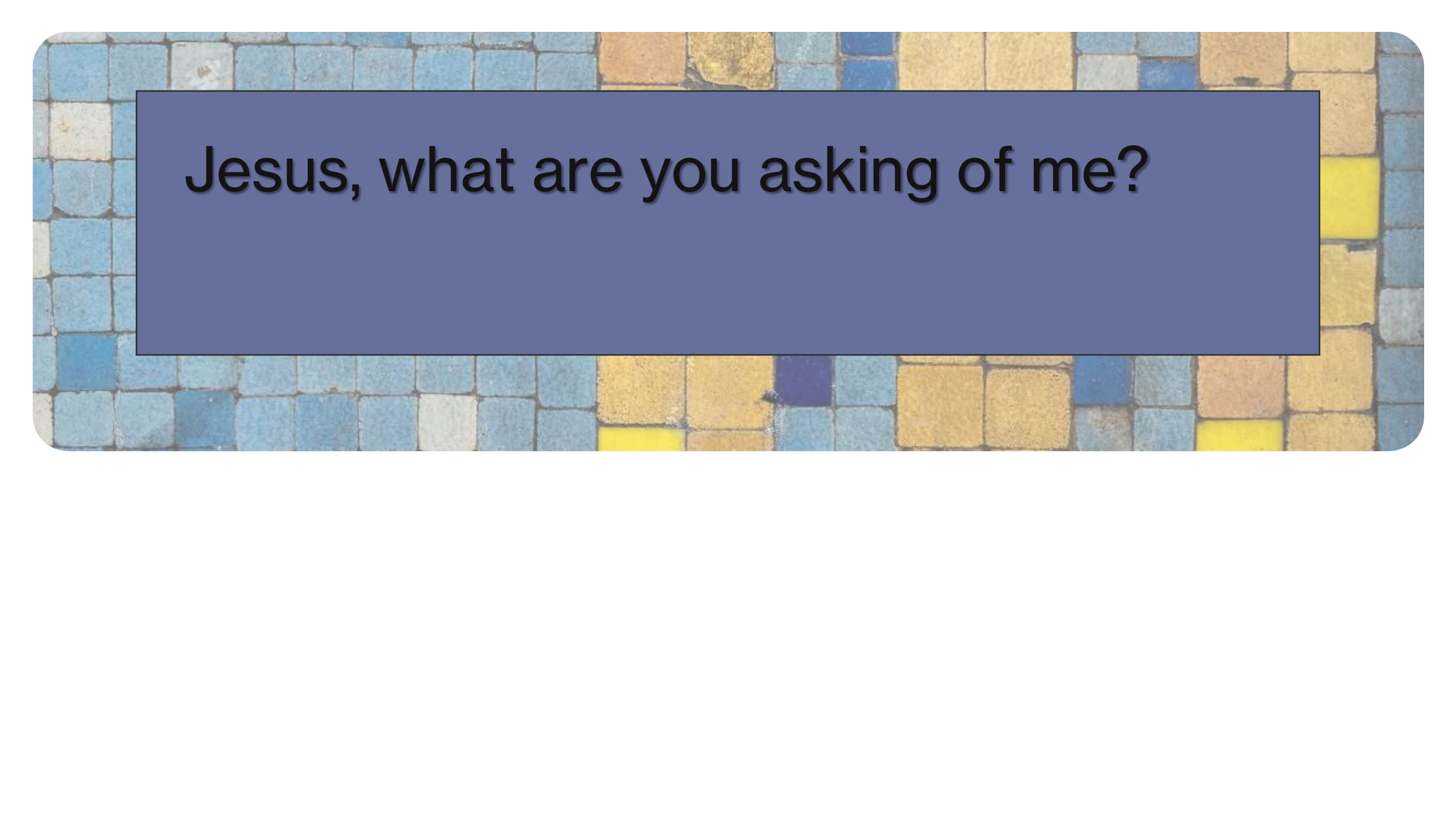


What are we hoping will happen to a person because of our catechesis?





Because of this catechetical
experience, I hope this person will...



Jesus, what are you asking of me?

INFORMATION

FORMATION

INFORMATION

- *Information asks:*

What do I need to know?

FORMATION

- *Formation asks:*

Who am I becoming?

Forgiveness

INFORMATION

Can tell me what the Church teaches about forgiveness

FORMATION

Asks: Am I becoming a forgiving person?

Eucharist

INFORMATION

can teach me what the
Eucharist is

FORMATION

Asks: Is the Eucharist
changing the way I live?

Preferential Option for the Poor

INFORMATION

can teach me about the poor.

FORMATION

Asks: How is Christ calling me to respond to the poor?

God's love for me

INFORMATION

can teach me that God
loves me

FORMATION

Asks: Do I actually trust
God's love will cause
me to love and live
differently?

Four Questions for Evangelizing Catechesis

Whenever we teach something, and what to discover what formation asks:

- **What?**
What does the Church teach?
- **So what?**
Why does this matter?
- **Now what?**
How does this touch my life?
- **Who am I becoming?**
How might Christ be calling me to live?

Your Turn



Baptism



Prayer



Scripture

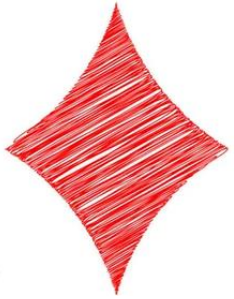


Respect Life

Your Turn



Baptism



Prayer



Scripture



Respect Life

- Information can
- Formation asks

Now we have our Goal... now what?



For
Formation
there are 4
movements

For
Formation
there are **4**
movements

1. Encounter

I encounter Christ.

2. Discipleship

I begin to follow Christ.

3. Community

I discover that I belong to a people.

4. Mission

I am sent to share God's love.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07GCSW1CQUg>

To teach as Jesus

Luke 24:13-35





Jesus listens.

Jesus asks questions.

Jesus enters their experience.

Jesus opens Scripture

Jesus reveals himself.

Jesus creates community.

Jesus sends them back.



The sacrament of Reconciliation /Penance



Knowing

>>>

Encountering

>>>

Responding.

Where are you now?

Mostly Information ← — — — — → **Mostly Mission**

Where are you now?

1. Think of a person who helped you grow in faith. What did that person do that went beyond simply giving you information?
2. When have you seen someone move from knowing about faith to actually living their faith? What seemed to make the difference?
3. Which of these four areas – encounter, discipleship, community, or mission – is most often missing from our catechesis? Why?



3 What does our Christian tradition have to say?

Four Questions for Evangelizing Catechesis

Whenever we teach something, and
what to discover what formation asks:

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How might Christ be calling me to live?

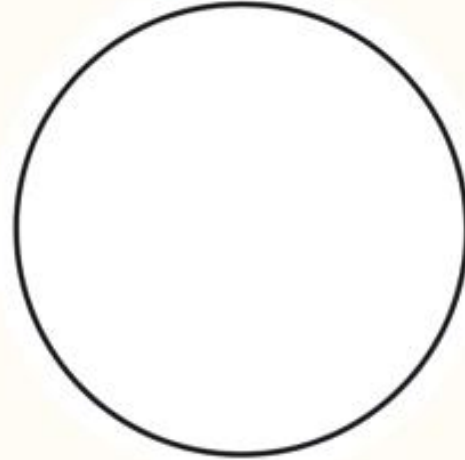




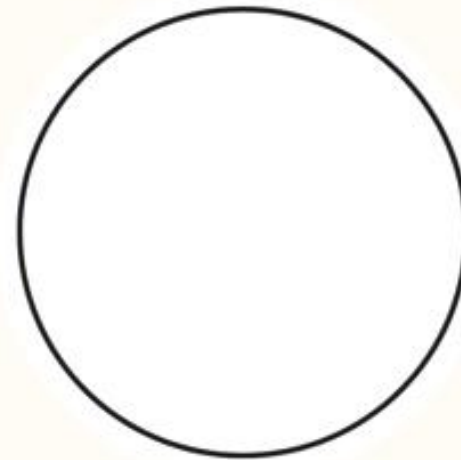
4 What does this mean for me?



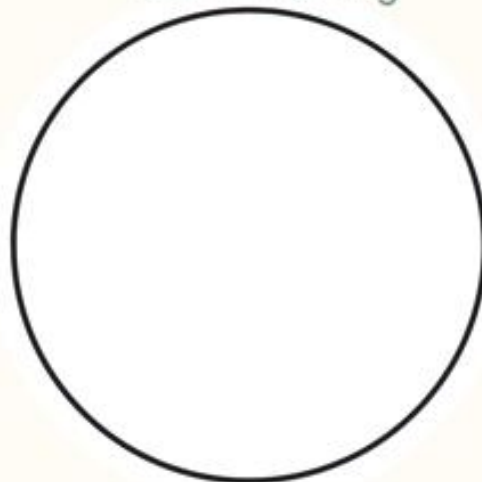
My life



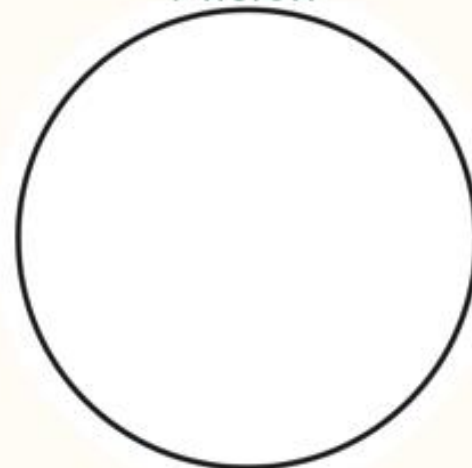
Christ



Community



Mision



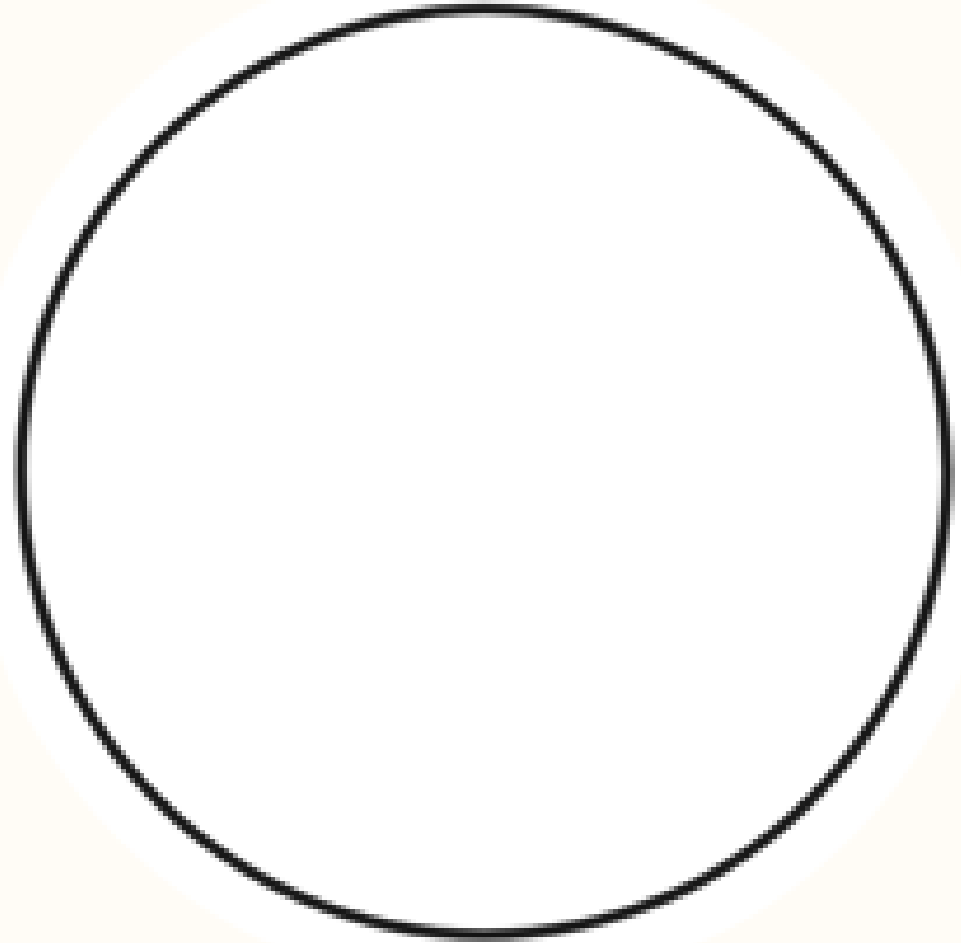
Ideas

- Baptism
- Eucharist
- Reconciliation
- Prayer
- Scripture
- Sin
- Mercy
- Holy Spirit
- Discipleship
- Social justice
- Vocation
- Whatever you have planned next

My Life

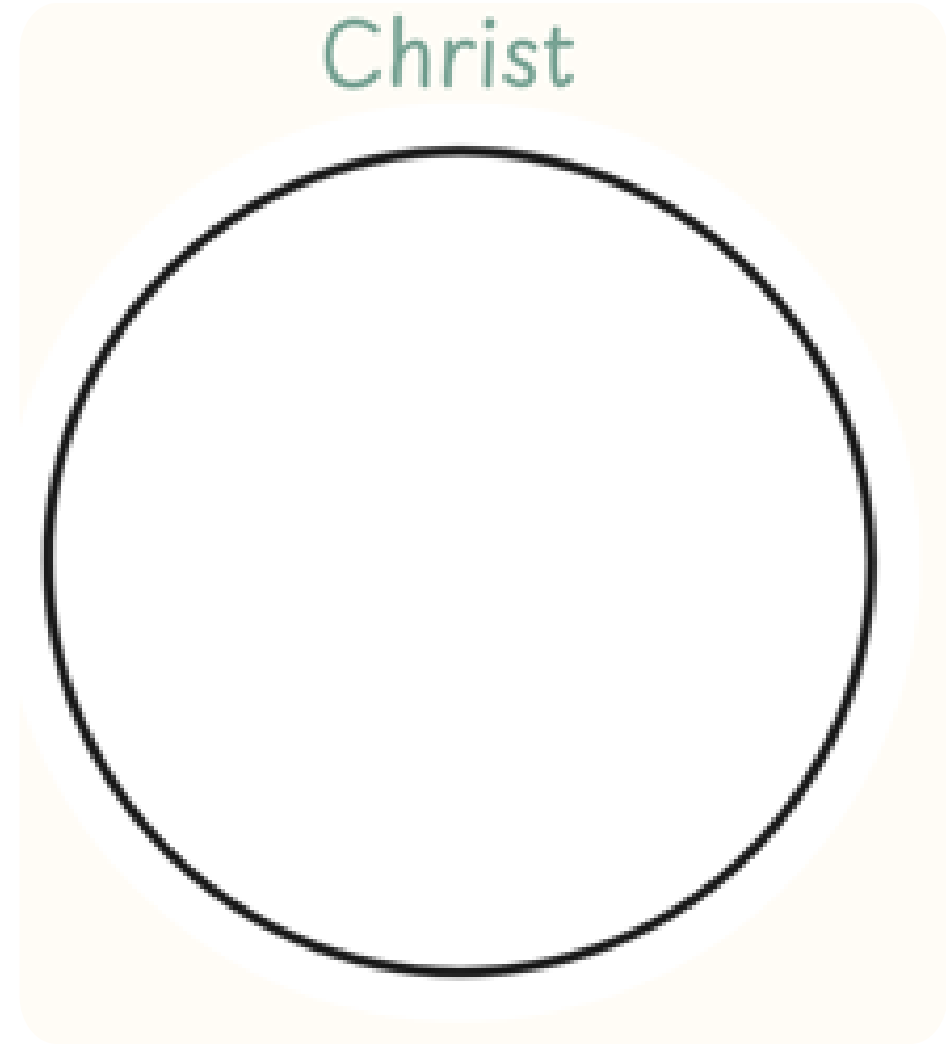
***Where does
this already
appear in my
experience?***

My life



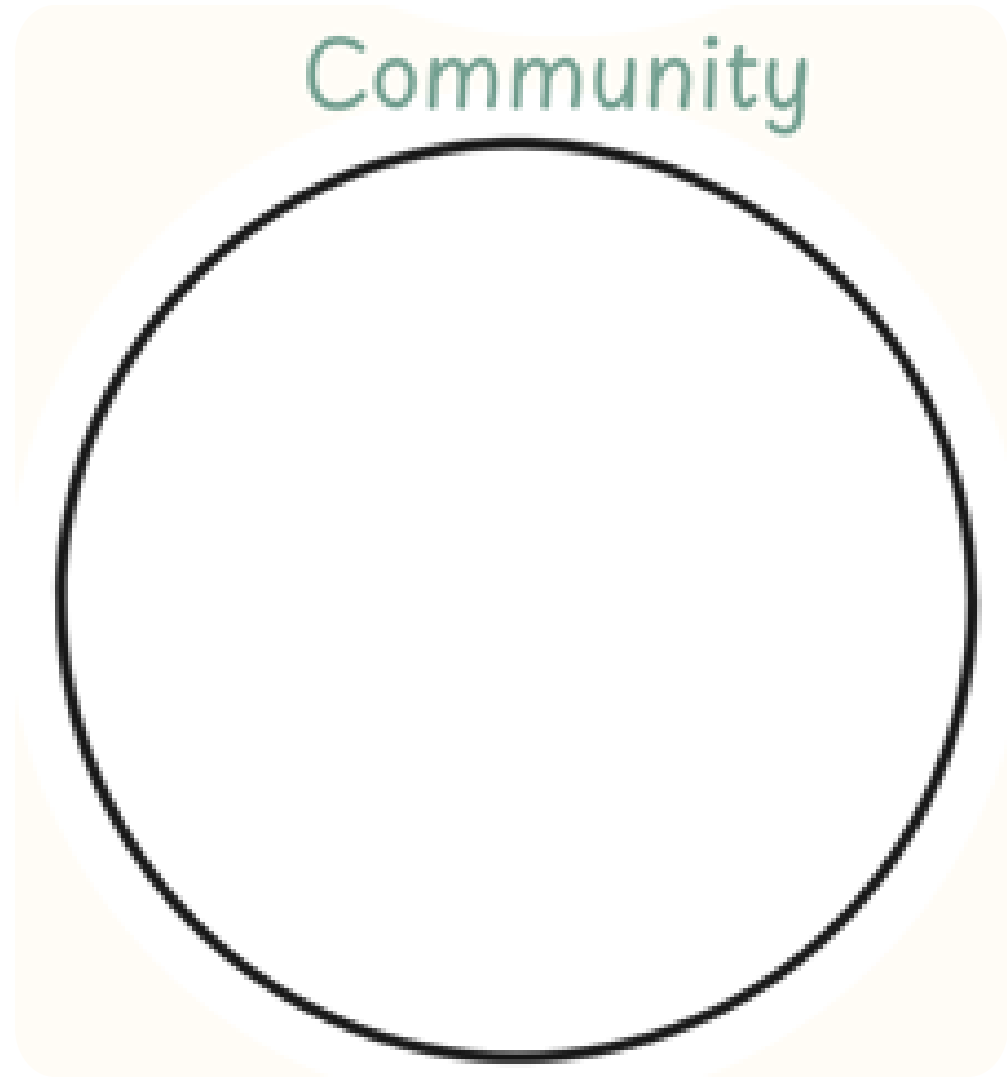
Christ

***What does
Jesus reveal
about this?***



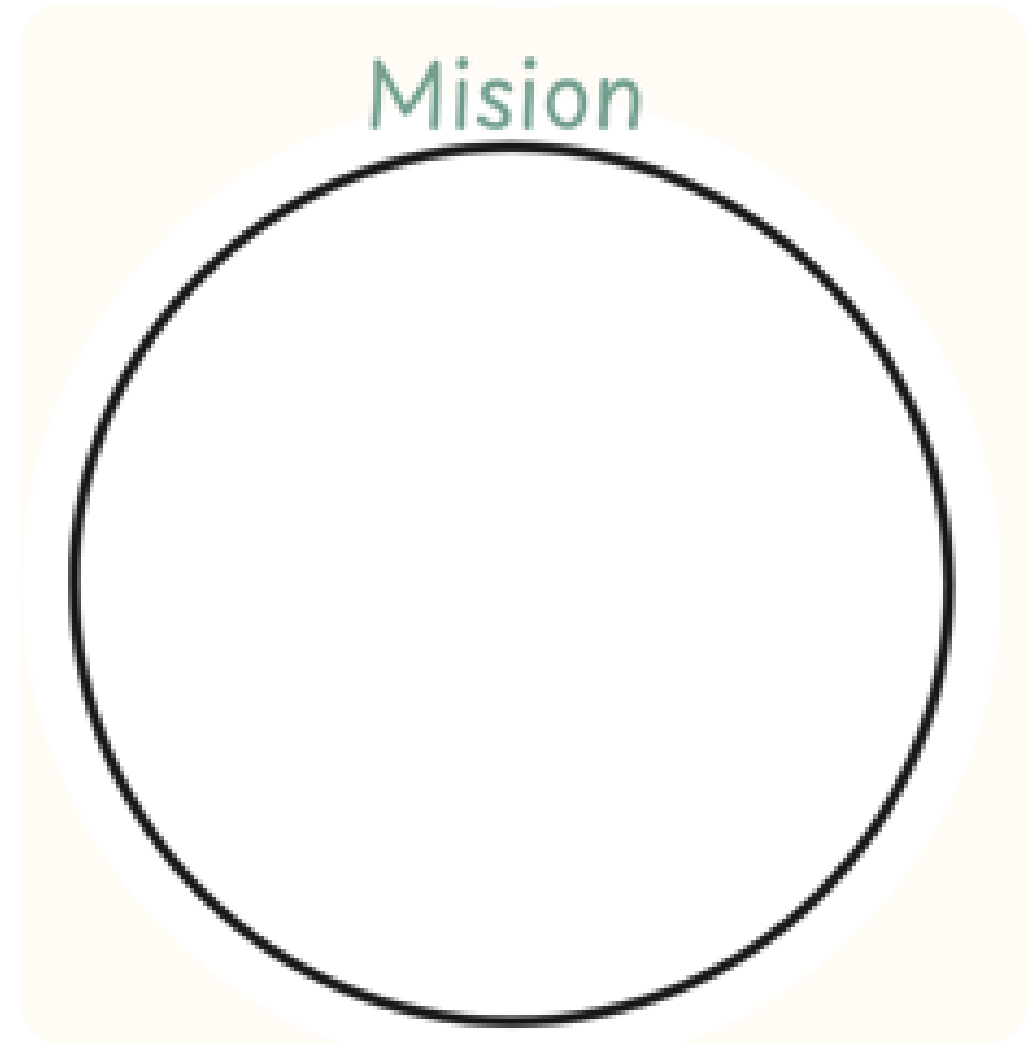
Community

***How does the
Christian
community help
me live this?***



Mission

***Where might
this send me?***

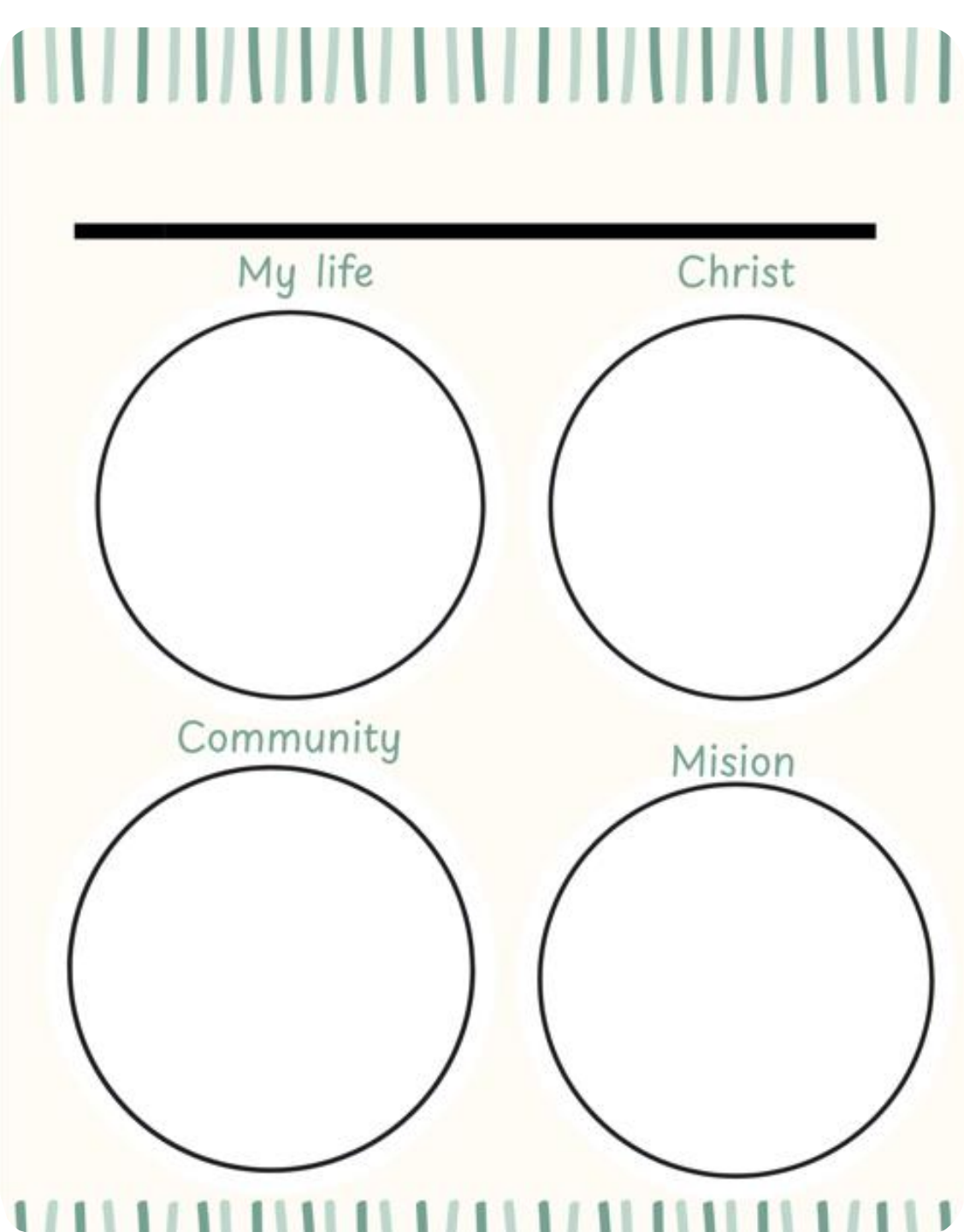


Holy Spirit, inspire our hearts and open our minds to new ways of sharing the Gospel. Guide us to see where you are already working in the lives of those we serve. Give us wisdom, courage, and love to lead others into a deeper encounter with Christ. Amen.



You have
four
minutes





My life

Christ

Community

Mision

- **MY LIFE**

Where does this already appear in my experience?

- **CHRIST**

What does Jesus reveal about this?

- **COMMUNITY**

How does the Christian community help me live this?

- **MISSION**

Where might this send me?



5 What am I going to do?



5 What will they do, believe, practice, notice, choose, or become?

Traditional Lesson	Evangelizing Catechesis
What do I want them to know?	What do I want them to encounter?
What information will I present?	What experience will we begin with?
What doctrine will I explain?	What question will we explore?
What Scripture will I teach?	How will Scripture speak to their lives?
What activity will they complete?	What response is God inviting?
How will I evaluate learning?	What practice might they take into life?
What comes next?	Where are they being sent?

Break our Groups



OCIA



Family Catechesis



Youth Ministry



Adult Formation



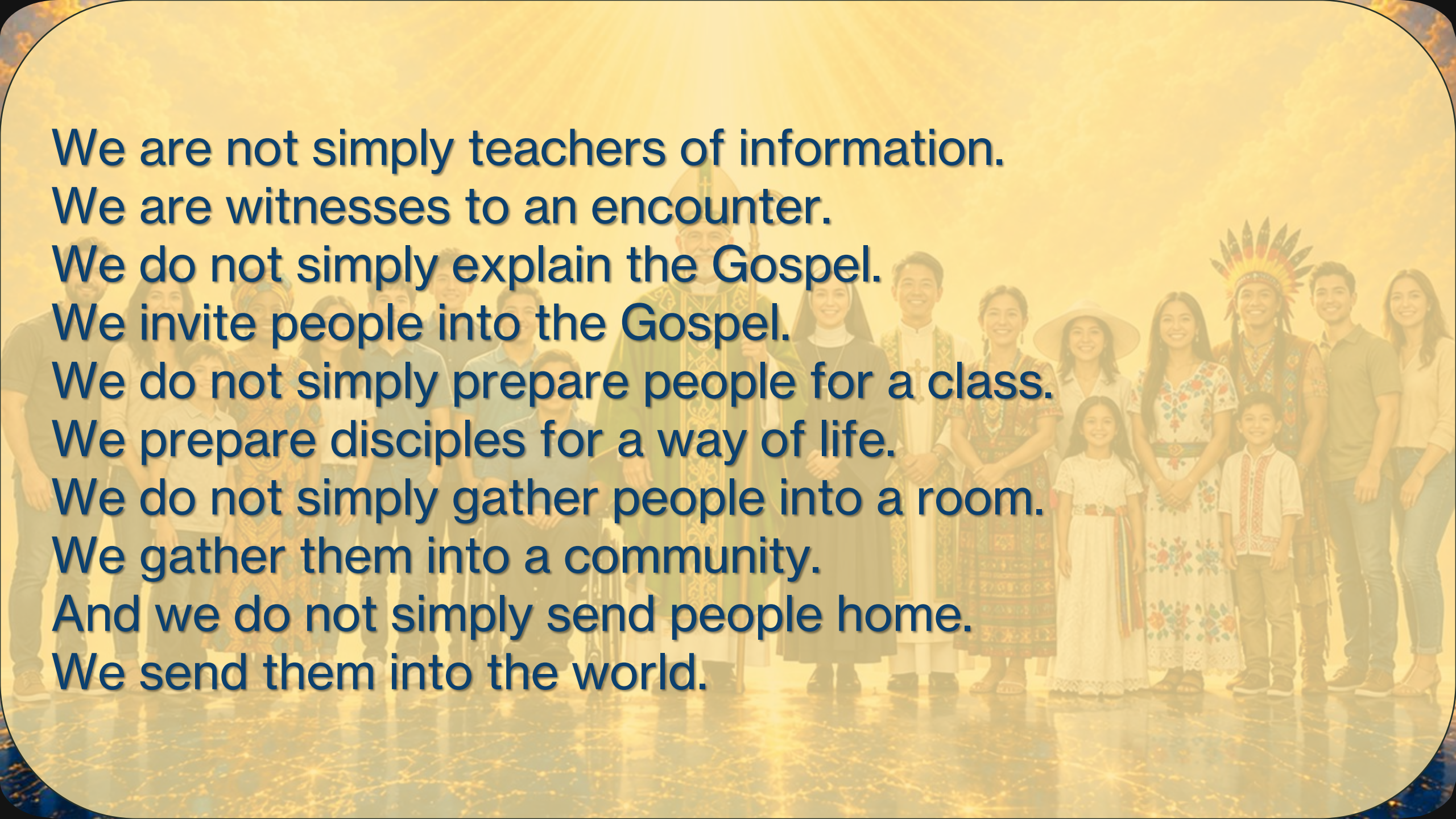
- **Start with life.**
- **Ask before telling.**
- **Listen before explaining.**
- **Use Scripture as an encounter, not merely a text to study.**
- **Tell stories.**
- **Connect doctrine to real life.**
- **Create space for prayer.**
- **Build relationships and community.**
- **Invite a concrete response.**
- **Send people forth.**

Find your first partner

- 1. Something I heard today that challenged me was...**
- 2. Something I want to change in my ministry is...**
- 3. One way I will move my catechesis from information toward encounter is...**



We are not simply teachers of information.
We are witnesses to an encounter.
We do not simply explain the Gospel.
We invite people into the Gospel.
We do not simply prepare people for a class.
We prepare disciples for a way of life.
We do not simply gather people into a room.
We gather them into a community.
And we do not simply send people home.
We send them into the world.



<https://faithforms.holyfamily.org/>

[Adult Confirmation](#)

[Confirmation Specialization](#)

[Faith Forms](#)

[OCIA](#)

[Technology](#)

Faith Forms at Dawn

Formation Resources

Welcome



Welcome! This website was created to support participants in my workshop by providing easy access to the materials, resources, and handouts shared throughout the event. My hope is that these tools will encourage, equip, and inspire you in your ministry and service to the Church.

Thank you for the work you do in helping others grow in faith and discipleship. May these resources continue to support you long after the workshop has ended.

Enjoy exploring the materials, and may God bless you in your ministry journey.

THANK YOU