

QUESTIONS FOR MEGACHURCH PASTOR

BOOK DISCUSSION SESSIONS ---TUESDAY EVE—6:30-8:00P.M. & THURS. MORNINGS FROM 9:30-11A.M.

Place: Holy Family Room

Facilitator: Sister Ruth Platte, SLW

Time frame:

Prayer and announcements

45 mins Discussion

30 mins Group Responses to 3 questions chosen by the group for discussion

Closing Prayer

Session3 —Nov 15 and Nov 17

Chapter 6: Family Cemetery

Chapter 7: Front Porch

Conclusion

Opening Prayer

Loving Father, Open our hearts and minds and allow us to see the beauty of our faith.

Show us what is possible and fill us with the grace, strength, and wisdom to live all the good things we explore here together.

Send your Spirit upon us so that we can discover your dream for us.

We ask you to bless in a special way the hungry, the lonely, the sick, and the discouraged.

Remind us of our duty toward them and inspire us to be filled with a profound gratitude.

We ask all this through your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Discussion Questions:

1. Chap. 6: Allen Hunt was attracted by the action of the Church in taking bold, clear stances on moral and social issues. In the past 20 years or so what big issues has the Church “tackled” (spoken out about).
2. Chap. 6 Hunt considered important questions as 1) on whose authority does the Church stand 2) By what authority does the Church proclaim the Truth. Do Catholics today consider these important questions. Why? Why not?
3. Chap 6. (p. 96) Three things Hunt learned about the Church by just visiting. What do you think strangers would say about our parish just by observing us at a Sunday Mass?
4. Chap. 6 Comment on 1 Tim 3, 15-16 when Paul speaks about TRUTH or page 98 in Hunt’s book
5. Chap. 6 How do Catholics come to the Truth....see Hunt’s notes on how the Pope discerns Truth pp. 112-113
6. Chap. 7. Why do you think Hunt ended his book with a Chapter entitled Front Porch? How might the front porch image relate to the Church in general? To our parish in particular?

7. Chap 7. Hunt speaks eloquently about unity and sharing the real presence of Christ in Eucharist (p. 130-131). Yet many have left our Church home. How could we go about welcoming Catholics home? As individuals? As a parish?
8. Conclusion: How do you know when you are home? That is the question Hunt proposes as he ends the book?
9. Conclusion: Hunt speaks of an experience of the Pope visiting Washington. He states.... "I did not get to meet the Pope that day. But I did get to meet something even more powerful....." What is he speaking about as he concludes his book? pp.139-40
10. What are three things you want to remember about this book?

Closing Prayer:

Loving Father,

I invite you into my life today and make myself available to you.

Help me to seek your will in all things and become a living example of your love in the world.

Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change in order for me to carry out the mission and experience the joy you have imagined for my life.

Inspire me to live the Catholic faith in ways that are dynamic and engaging.

Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish.

Make our community hunger for the Eucharist. Give me courage when I am afraid, hope when I am discouraged, and clarity in times of decision.

Help me to find my home truly in the house of Your Church and help me to bring others to the Table of the Eucharist. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, the Living Word Amen

Announcements

If you have any suggestions for other books to read please call or email Sr.Ruth Platte are rplatte@ccstpaul.com