

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

Session 2—Oct 18 or Oct 20

Chapter 3: Kitchen

Chapter 4: Basement

Chapter 5: Bedroom

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.

Questions Chaps 3, 4, & 5

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Chap. 3: Reflect on Allen Hunt's words..."suffering changes everything....through my suffering, the Holy Spirit revealed to me the second treasure. And I found it in the kitchen of this old house." What treasure is Hunt hinting at that he found? When has suffering brought change to your life? What was it?**
- 2. Chap. 3 what are the different degrees of suffering the author spoke of? When did things start changing for him and why? How did his encounter with Fr. Caj change his life?**
- 3. Chap 3. Allen said "holiness matters because holiness is your destiny." What does he mean? What does holiness "look like"? Who are your holiness heroes? And what does all this have to do with the title of this Chapter: Kitchen?**

4. Chap. 4: Scary things live in the basement, families hide secrets in the basement but the basement provides a sturdy foundation for the whole house. What is the treasure in the basement of the house of the Catholic Church? Do you think Catholics today appreciate this treasure? Why or why not?
5. Chap. 4: What wisdom do you find in the quotes from Paul's letter to the Philippians? (p. 61-64)
6. Chap. 4: How would a Catholic explain "the saints" to a Protestant?
7. Chap. 5: In Catholic mysticism we believe God speaks to us in dreams and visions. Give examples from the Old and New Testaments where people of faith were guided by dreams and visions.
8. Chap. 5: Name some Catholic mystics and tell how they view suffering. How do you connect the realities of your prayer life with suffering that comes to you in the course of your life?
9. Chap. 5 is there a Catholic perspective on prayer and suffering? Sometimes you hear people say...."just offer it up!" Allen ends this chapter with the words "Suffering can lead to transformation. And redemption." What do you think he mean?

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

***Next Session: Nov. 15 6:30-8:00 pm and Nov 17. 9:30-11 a.m. HFR**

***We will discuss: Chapters: 6&7**

***Check out questions for this session on-line www.ccstpaul.com posted by Nov 1st. Follow the pathway for ministries then adult faith formation.**