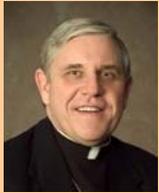


The Discipleship Series

Faith-Sharing Resources with a Mission of Love

“This expanding set of faith-sharing resources is aptly named the Discipleship Series. I recommend it whole-



heartedly to individuals, groups, parishes and dioceses that wish to foster a deeper, fuller discipleship in Christ.”

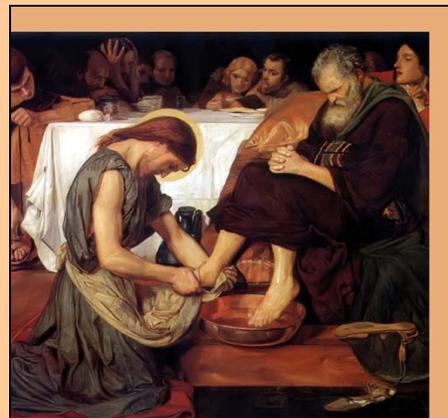
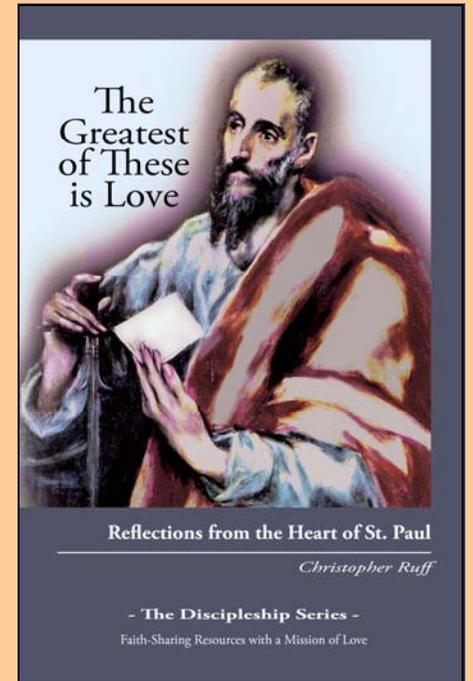
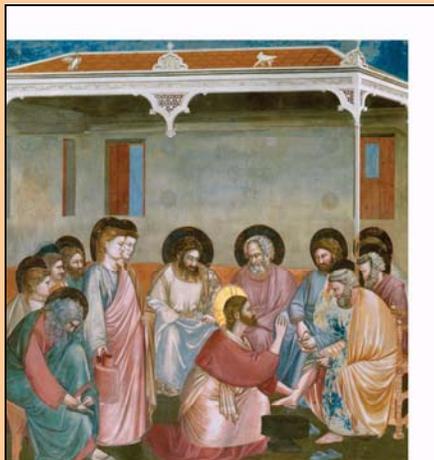
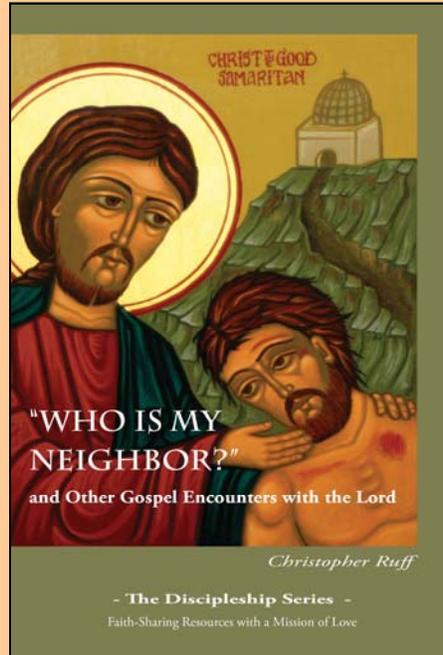
--Jerome E. ListECKI
Archbishop of Milwaukee

“The Discipleship Series has borne tremendous fruit in our Archdiocese. Consistently, participants have found it



to be a source of joy, edification, challenge, and consolation. I couldn't recommend it more highly for integral Christian formation.”

--Kyle Neilson
RCIA and Adult Faith Formation Consultant
Archdiocese of Vancouver



For more information, pricing, and to *preview samples* from the books -

Visit www.novomill.com

To contact Novo Millenno Press

Email: novomill@gmail.com

Phone: 608-304-1768

Resources for People with Busy Lives but Open Hearts

- Balanced, integral components -- Prayer, Reflection, Fellowship, Service
- Discussion questions connecting faith with life
- Appendix of “Suggestions for Service”
- Parish renewal without pressuring busy pastors

From the Introduction to *Who Is My Neighbor*:

Welcome to the *Discipleship Series* of faith-sharing resources.

This series has a different focus than “Bible studies” that take a more linear and academic approach.

The goal is to:

- Soak deeply and prayerfully in a small, select number of Gospel passages;
- See the meaning of those passages come alive in human stories that inspire;
- Reflect as a small group on discussion questions that apply to daily living;
- Foster a modest commitment to love of neighbor through service;
- Experience in our hearts the fullness of joy that only Christ can give!

In over twenty years of organizing and writing materials for faith-sharing groups, these are the fruits I have come to see and expect. The component of active love of neighbor comes from the conviction that true discipleship must take seriously Jesus’ words, “Whatever you did for the least of my brethren, you did for me” (Mt 25:40). And truly the fruit of love is joy—a warm, inspired joy that I have seen blossom over and over again as a result of this faith-sharing experience.

As support for this approach, consider Jesus’ allegory of the Vine and the branches (John 15:1-17). We have all heard it many times, with its image of Jesus as the Vine, to whom we as branches must be joined if we are to bear fruit. I encourage you to read it again and to reflect on some key phrases:

“Abide in me...abide in my love.”

Let “...my words abide in you.”

“...that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.”

“Love one another as I have loved you.”

“...that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

(see verses 4-12)

I believe we can find in these forty-six words of Jesus the very essence of his Gospel, his call to us. And the faith-sharing approach of the *Discipleship Series* is an attempt to respond actively and enthusiastically to that call. “Abiding” bears fruit in love, whose nectar is joy.

Let us, then, listen and abide. And may the fruit of our abiding be a fuller, more charitable, more joyful discipleship that moves the world to marvel, as the ancient pagans did: “See how they love one another!”

To preview the books in the *Discipleship Series*, go to www.novomill.com and click on book “samples.”

Testimonials on the *Discipleship Series*

“These are resources that really take people where they are in their lives and bring them to a deeper relationship with Christ and greater enthusiasm for service. After we finished the first book, everybody wanted to do the second one. We got the same people back, plus more. They keep telling me how much they enjoy the discussion questions, because they connect the Scriptures and the stories to their daily lives.”
Allen Simmons – St. Florian’s Parish, Chicago, IL

“I teach a Scripture class at Sancta Maria House, a healing home for alcoholics and addicts, in Vancouver. I decided to try a few lessons with them. The women loved everything about the books and I loved the thought-provoking discussion that the questions inspired. Then my pastor asked me to facilitate a program in the parish. I set up a Lenten study of *Who is My Neighbor*, and it has met with equal success. All the participants indicate that they want to continue. Thank you for your inspired program.”
Rae Pawlowski - Facilitator, St. Luke’s Parish, Maple Ridge, BC and Scripture Teacher, Sancta Maria house, Vancouver, BC

“We have had a very good response from 7 participating groups at Risen Christ Catholic Parish. Here is a sample of what people had to say: ‘I feel closer to God and to members of the parish;’ ‘The sharing of each other’s lives is a wonderful process to take part in;’ ‘Opened a deeper awareness of compassion, mercy, and love.’ Our groups met last night for a year-end celebration and are all excited to get the next book!”
Cathy Yoder – Risen Christ Parish, Boise, ID

“Annunciation Parish in Kearney (Missouri) introduced the series to their small Christian communities and they absolutely love them. These were groups that in the past had met to pray and do Bible study, but they had never engaged in any form of service. These communities are now on fire for service after using the books – most of them have used all three and are eager for another.”
Jude Huntz – Director, Human Rights Office, Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

“I led a group of young adults through *The Greatest of These is Love*, and they responded with much enthusiasm. There was such a good balance of Scripture, stories, Catechism quotes, discussion, prayer and focus on service, and the program was very do-able for busy people. The members of our group found many thought-provoking connections to their daily lives. They especially liked the stories that brought the Scripture themes to life. Everybody really looked forward to coming to the meetings!”
Eileen Mueller – Nativity of Our Lord Parish, St. Paul, MN

“The *Discipleship Series* is a wonderful tool that appeals to a broad range of participants. Drawing from the lives of the saints, Sacred Scripture, and Church teachings, it not only enlivens faith and inspires reflection, but asks that we put what we have gained into action. Long after our noon faith-sharing group at Catholic Charities has finished, I’ve seen two and three gathered continuing a discussion. The action component brings forth the “fruit” – for what good is faith if it does not prompt us to serve one another?”
Deacon Richard Sage – Executive Director, Catholic Charities, Diocese of La Crosse

“The *Discipleship Series* books are approachable, accessible and inviting, and the program is fostering both prayer and charity in our parish. We have 6 groups in our parish of 650 families, and the facilitators come together to pray for an hour each week for the parish’s intentions. Then they go to a nursing home and lead faith-sharing with the residents there.”
Fr. Peter Manickam, Pastor – Sacred Heart Parish, Marshfield, WI

“In our small parish we had 4 groups. The participants became so connected they want to keep meeting and to maintain the service commitment. There is a lady in the Diocese who takes food to the poor in a park in Grand Rapids every Saturday. We decided to make bagged lunches for her to give away, and later we involved students in preparing these meals. It was a beautiful opportunity for everyone.”
Jeannie Wernet, Catechetical Leader – St. Edward’s Parish, Lake Odessa, MI

“In our parish, adult education has been challenging, but this book was extremely interesting and easy to do. We had steady attendance, without the usual drop-out rate. We look forward to doing the next book!”
Deacon John McKinley – St. Elizabeth’s Parish, Gooding, ID

For more Testimonials, visit www.novomill.com