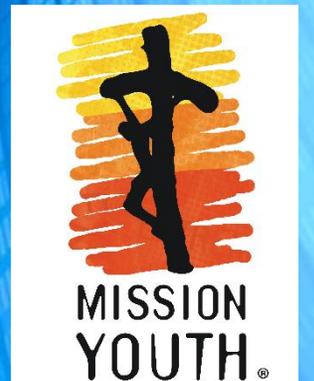




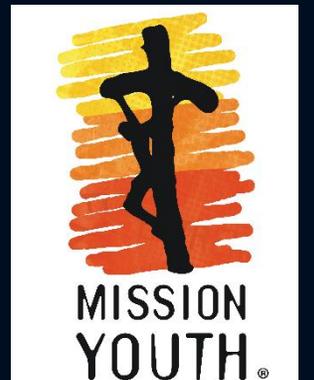
**MISSION
YOUTH.®**

Personal Accompaniment



Biblical Experience

- Moses (Exodus 3)
- David (1 Samuel 16)
- Samaritan Woman (John 4)
- Emmaus (Luke 24)
- Paul & Barnabas (Acts 9)



Pope Francis

- 237. “Jesus walks with two disciples who did not grasp the meaning of all that happened to him, and are leaving Jerusalem and the community behind. Wanting to accompany them, he joins them on the way. He asks them questions and listens patiently to their version of events, and in this way he helps them recognize what they were experiencing. Then, with affection and power, he proclaims the word to them, leading them to interpret the events they had experienced in the light of the Scriptures. He accepts their invitation to stay with them as evening falls; he enters into their night. As they listen to him speak, their hearts burn within them and their minds are opened; they then recognize him in the breaking of the bread. They themselves choose to resume their journey at once in the opposite direction, to return to the community and to share the experience of their encounter with the risen Lord”.

Pope Francis

- 242. Young people need to have their freedom respected, yet they also need to be accompanied. The family should be the first place of accompaniment. Youth ministry can present the ideal of life in Christ as the process of building a house on rock (cf. Mt 7:24-25). For most young people, that house, their life, will be built on marriage and married love. That is why youth ministry and the pastoral care of families should be coordinated and integrated, with the aim of ensuring a continuous and suitable accompaniment of the vocational process.

Pope Francis

- 243. The community has an important role in the accompaniment of young people; it should feel collectively responsible for accepting, motivating, encouraging and challenging them. All should regard young people with understanding, appreciation and affection, and avoid constantly judging them or demanding of them a perfection beyond their years.

Pope Francis

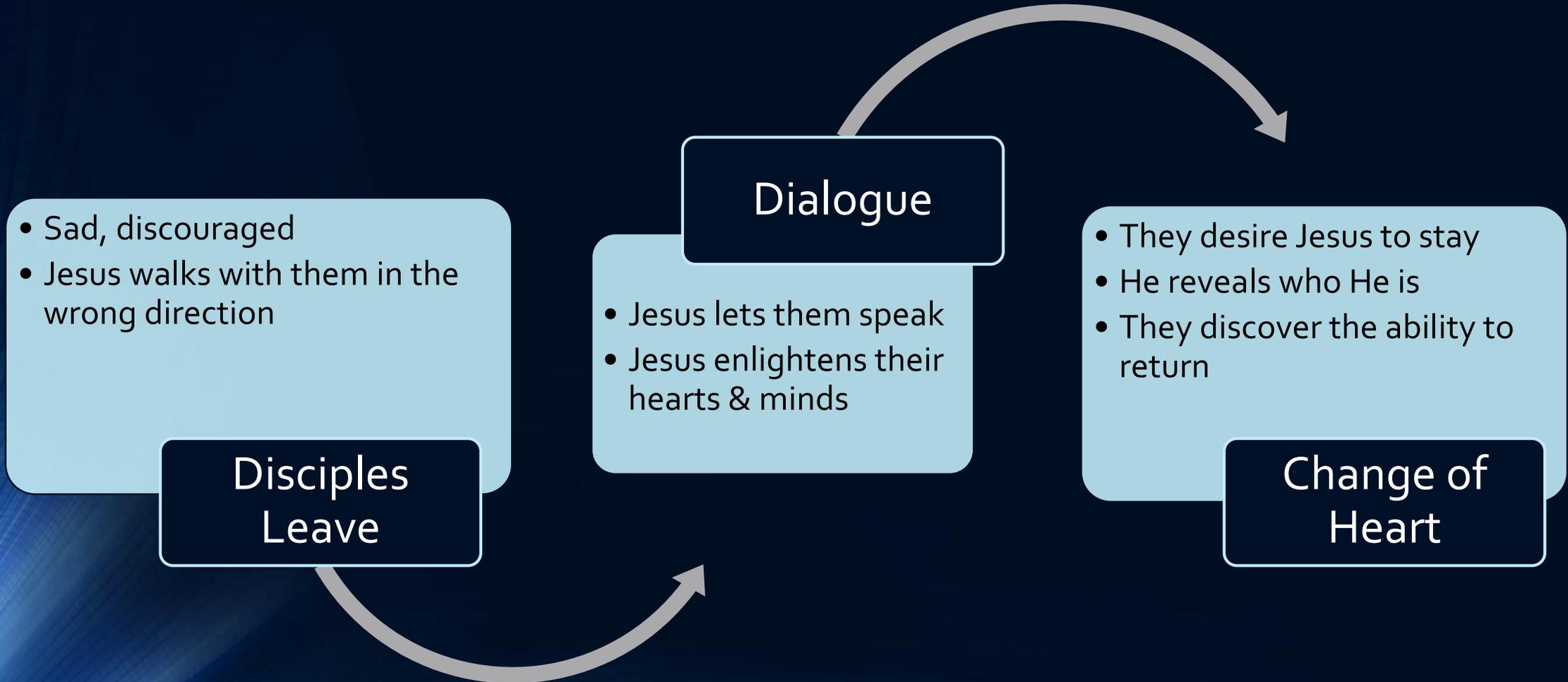
- 244: At the Synod, “many pointed to the shortage of qualified people devoted to accompaniment. Belief in the theological and pastoral value of listening entails rethinking and renewing the ways that priestly ministry is ordinarily exercised, and reviewing its priorities. The Synod also recognized the need to train consecrated persons and laypeople, male and female, to accompany young people. The charism of listening that the Holy Spirit calls forth within the communities might also receive institutional recognition as a form of ecclesial service”.

Pope Francis

246. The same young people described to us the qualities they hope to find in a mentor, and they expressed this with much clarity.

- being a faithful Christian who engages with the Church and the world;
- someone who constantly seeks holiness;
- someone who is a confidant without judging.
- someone who actively listens to the needs of young people and responds in kind
- someone deeply loving and self-aware
- someone who recognizes his or her limits
- someone knows the joys and sorrows of the spiritual journey.
- Someone who acknowledges their own humanity – the fact that they are human beings who make mistakes: not perfect people but forgiven sinners.

Emmaus Accompaniment Process



Accompaniment “Excuses”

I CAN'T BECAUSE...

- Young people don't want to talk to people like me...
- I am not good or holy enough...
- I don't know what to say...
- I don't have time...
- I don't know where to start...

YOU CAN BECAUSE...

- Young people want someone who is willing to listen...
- They want someone relatable... a sinner like them
- The Holy Spirit will give you words...
- Time for others fills & frees you...
- Start with one young person you know

ECYD Accompaniment

- 27: Accompaniment is personal attention offered on both an individual and group level in the varied circumstances of the adolescents' lives. With closeness and friendship, the mentors guide and walk alongside the adolescents (Cf. Luke 24:13-33) in their search for happiness and the fullness of their calling.

ECYD Accompaniment

- 28: Personal accompaniment is offered to the adolescents in the following ways:
 - 1° Spiritual mentoring: the ECYD Mentor seeks to enlighten, with the help of God's grace, the different dimensions of the adolescent's life so as to guide them to union with God, and to seek and welcome God's will.
 - 2° On-going closeness and relationship building between the team leader and the adolescent, in which the leader seeks to touch base with each member on their team to get to know each one and be near to each one. The goal is to be able to guide them as a friend and older brother/sister.

Accompaniment Exercise

Dialogue Box

- Each small group breaks into two teams
- One team writes the characteristics of teenagers today on a cardboard box
- The other team writes the characteristics of adults that work with teens on a cardboard box
- Get ready to talk about your summer vacation plans!

