

MLC – MID LIFE

Theme: Thank you for letting me be myself – Respecting Others Perspectives

Icebreaker: Would You Rather?

- Ask questions which force members to make a choice between two things. After each question have them share their choice in pairs (one round sharing them with someone they agree with, next round sharing with someone they disagree with).

Opening Prayer

- Heavenly Father, we are many parts, but we come to your table as one body. We bring with us a stranger, whom we may fear, but guide us to your table with clean hearts and open minds. Guide us to be welcome to all. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. ..Amen

Scripture

- Matthew 7:1-7

Presentation of Theme:

- A student or adult gives a personal testimony about the challenge of respecting others perspective's. Include in the sharing the Marianist characteristics of inclusivity and discipleship of equals.
- Who are you? Give everyone a notecard and have them write something that identifies them (ethnic identity, sport or activity, musical performance, etc). Have the group sit in a circle and pass the cards around. Each person writes a comment (positive and negative) or stereotype about that group. Have members keep their cards for the small group meeting.
- Personal Reflection – Take 5 minutes of silence to reflect on your personal experience with being judged, when you judged a “book by its cover”, the times when you failed to see the world from another's perspective.

Small Group Sharing:

- Questions to reflect –
 - Is it difficult for you to see another's perspective? Explain.
 - How did you feel about how others who judged your identify in the note card activity?
 - What are the challenges and gifts of being part of an inclusive community – one with different backgrounds and opinions?
- Have members exchange cards with another and challenge them to pray for each other and for the courage to not be so quick to judge and stereotype.

Closing Song: “Thank you for letting me be myself” by Sly and the Family Stone

Closing Prayer: Shared Intentions

Social: Food!