



Things Marianist Talking Points for Boards

A Publication of the North American Center for Marianist Studies

Whose Wine is It?

Reflection questions on the role of being a missionary in the Marianist family.

Note: These reflection questions are based on the six different sections from this particular *Things Marianist*. You may go through each section or use this guide as a starting point for a board discussion. Copies of *Things Marianist* can be obtained at www.nacrn.org.

Opening Prayer

Take a moment and bring yourself into the presence of your loving God.

Great Spirit, You who make all things new

Come and awaken me, set my feet to fresh paths

Inspire me to speak original and life-giving words

And to creatively give shape to the new Come and teach me how to dance with delight

Whenever you send a new melody my way. Amen

(Suggested opening song: "You are the light of the World" *Godspel4*)

Reflection Questions

What are your initial reactions to the term/notion of a "discipleship of equals"?

Describe a time you witnessed this way of being in the world in the Marianist

After reading and reflecting on the wedding feast at Cana, share an insight, word, thought, or idea that spoke to you.

"The present challenge for our common Marianist mission is to understand our discipleship of equals as a call for deeper and more effective collaboration between religious communities and lay communities." This was written over 12 years ago. Does this same challenge apply today? Why or why not? What needs of the Church are benefited by this collaboration? (The culture? The world?)

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(Reflection Questions Continued)

How do the following ways of collaboration described in the reading apply to a Marianist board today? They are:

- A shifting of the base of power
- A shifting in ownership and responsibility
- Doing with less for the sake of the project
- Committing to the fact that collaboration is more important than parochial interests of either party
- Committing to new forms of collaborative leadership
- Committing to try again after failure.

Brainstorm some goals for collaboration can you set in your life and your community that would address the challenges in our readings.

Closing Scripture

The wedding feast at Cana (in 2:1-11)

Reader One, Narrator. On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him,

Reader Two, Mary: "They have no more wine."

Reader Three, Jesus: "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come."

Reader One Narrator: His mother said to the servants,

Reader Two, Mary: "Do whatever he tells you."

Reader One, Narrator: Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants,

Reader Three, Jesus: "Fill the jars with water,"

Reader One, Narrator: So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them,

Reader Two, Jesus: "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet"

Reader One, Narrator: They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said,

Reader Four, Master of the Banquet: "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

Reader One: Narrator: This is the first of his miraculous signs Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory and his disciples put their faith in him.

Closing Prayer: Mary, wellspring of Peace, model of strength, model of gentleness, trust and courage Be our guide Mary, model of patience, risk, openness, perseverance Be our guide Amen