

# LIFE Meeting Social Media August 29, 2018

## 1. Opening Prayer

Graham

## 2. Icebreaker

## 3. Large Group: Video to intro topic

Graham

## 4. Small Groups

## 5. Large Group: Wrap Up

Meg

## 6. Closing Prayer

Meg

- Next Meeting: September 26<sup>th</sup>- Faith in the Secular World
- Recycling
- Hope Totes
- Pictures

## **Opening Prayer**

Social Media Song by Joely Rendle

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_8TRJ2799Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_8TRJ2799Y)

Would you still feel beautiful if,  
One day the likes stopped lighting up  
your phone every minute,  
Who you have left, if suddenly your,  
1000 Facebook friends who aren't really  
your friends disappeared from the  
scene

Oh we're all sucked into our phones  
We don't know what is going on  
We're so disrespectfully blind,  
To anything that's not been digitized  
and,  
We are such a dishonest race  
We edit and photoshop our faces  
'til we don't look real anymore and we  
end up exactly the same,

What if one day our phones and  
computers and social media raves  
Just went away

Would we still have a voice  
Would we still have a brain?

We are designed to follow trends  
We've got technology in our brains  
And everyone just wants to be liked  
"Someone follow me, I'm stuck on 99"  
Does anyone care what you're doing  
with our time?  
Whether or not, we still post it online  
We've been brainwashed by electricity  
Everyone's a victim of this crime

Would we still have opinions?

Would we still have a viewing?

Would we still have millions

Of people that care what we're doing?

## **Reflection**

In a world where social media is always present in our lives, it can sometimes feel like it is taking over our lives. Social media has almost become a separate world, a different reality. People change when they go on social media, they become someone else, and stop being themselves. It's important to realize that just because you go online, doesn't mean you have to change who you are. It should be an extension of yourself, where you get to share who you really are. Don't be pressured into trends and expectations on social media, just be yourself, you don't have to change for anyone.

## **Icebreaker**

Icebreaker: Social Media - Would You Rather (go to the side of the room that you agree with)

- Twitter or snapchat?
- Shop online or shop in store?
- Netflix or HBO?
- Ebooks or real books?
- Spotify or Pandora?
- Tagged in an embarrassing post or like someone's post from two months ago?
- Xbox or Playstation?
- Spend 10 hours a day on social media or give it up completely?
- Virtual reality or reality?
- Movie or tv show?
- Tablet or laptop?
- Google Drive or Microsoft?
- iPhone or Android?
- Kahoot or Quizlet?
- Have a parent follow you or a teacher follow you

## Large Group

Can We Auto-Correct Humanity <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRI8ElhrQjQ>

### **Transition to Small Group**

Social media is such a huge part of our lives. There are definite positives and negatives that are associated with social media. Unless we are forced to, many of us do not like to disconnect. Many times we just grab our phones out of boredom. Think for a minute about the amount of time that you spend on your phone during the school day.....As soon as you walk out of class, do you check it? Do you check it in class hoping not to get caught? At lunch how many people at your table are on their phones? Could you go without your phone for a day? A week? Today be open to discussions about social media, the good, the bad, and the ugly. And we challenge you to take a look at your technology use and attempt to cut back.

## Small Group

Everyone hold hands by interlocking fingers so that our strengths are covered up by other people's weaknesses.

### **Prayer**

2 John 1:12

"Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete."

Now this may not have been spoken in a time when social media was existing and thriving, however this still applies today. We pray that we can connect with people and not be glued to our screens all the time. We pray our joy may be complete and we can understand your plans for us, Lord. We ask this through Mary, Your Mother. Amen.

### **Twitter Activity**

Give everyone a slip of paper, and have them write a tweet about themselves (keep it a secret and don't show it to others). Put all of them in a pile and randomly pick one. Read them all off and try to guess who wrote which one.

Stats on Social Media/Questions

- "By 2010 Gen Y will outnumber Baby Boomers...96% of them have joined a social network."
- "Social Media has overtaken porn as the #1 activity on the Web."
- "1 out of 8 couples married in the U.S. last year met via social media."
- "If Facebook were a country it would be the world's 4th largest."
- "On average, online students out perform those receiving face-to-face instruction."
- "80% of companies use LinkedIn as a primary tool to find employees."
- "What happens in Vegas stays on YouTube, Flickr, Twitter, Facebook, etc." Thank goodness for the confessional.
- "Wikipedia has over 13 million articles...some studies show it's more accurate than Encyclopedia Britannica." Have Catholics been writing these articles? Contributing to them? Making sure they are correct?
- "There are over 200,000,000 Blogs." How many of them are Catholic?
- "Facebook USERS translated the site from English to Spanish via a Wiki in less than 4 weeks and cost Facebook \$0." How can the Catholic Church or the parish accomplish such feats on limited budgets?
- "78% of consumers trust peer recommendations." How many peers are recommending the Catholic Church on social media?
- "24 of the 25 largest newspapers are experiencing record declines in circulation because we no longer search for the news, the news finds us." Are we as a Church going out and finding people? Or are we just waiting for people to find us?

- “More than 1.5 million pieces of content (web links, news stories, blog posts, notes, photos, etc.) are shared on Facebook...daily.” How many of them reflect the Gospel? How many share the fullness of Truth?

#### Small Group Questions

- Do you have to be on EVERY social media network?
- Does social media actually reflect reality?
- How much time do you spend on social media a day? Does it affect the time you spend with God or at Church?
- Are you really the person you portray yourself to be online?
- Have you ever gotten in a fight online because of something you posted? Do you regret what you posted?
- Are you ever nervous to post because of how many likes you may or may not get? Are you scared others will judge you?
- Do you have social media to attract attention?
- How do you use social media to connect with others?
- Does social media distract you from things happening around you?
- What are the biggest challenges that you face personally with using social media?
- In what ways does social media help you connect with others?

#### Small Group Part 2

##### **Social Media Activity**

- One side what you want your social media to look like/how you want it to represent you
- The other side what it actually tells people about you

##### **Small group Questions**

- Do you talk about faith online? Why? Or why not?
- Talk about people in your life who aren't on social media. What is their faith life like?
- Have you ever met others online because they share the same faith as you?
- Do you ever compare yourself to people online? How does that affect you?
- How has social media influenced your life? Positively? Negatively?
- What would the world be like with no internet or social media? What would your life be like without it?
- Is how you portray yourself online different from who you are in person?
- Have you ever given up social media? Would you?
- How has social media affected society? How has it affected your view on society?
- Is social media affecting your relationships with your friends?

#### Spontaneous Closing Prayer

### Large Group

Brief wrap up of what did you learn?

## Closing Prayer

You Say by Lauren Daigle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14OxEwPRzBY>

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough  
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up  
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low?  
Remind me once again just who I am, because I need to know (ooh oh)  
You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
You say I am held when I am falling short  
When I don't belong, oh You say that I am Yours  
And I believe (I), oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me  
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity, (ooh oh)  
You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
And You say I am held when I am falling short  
When I don't belong, oh You say that I am Yours  
And I believe (I), oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
Oh, I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet  
You have every failure God, and You'll have every victory, (ooh oh)  
You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
You say I am held when I am falling short  
When I don't belong, oh You say that I am Yours  
And I believe (I), oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
I believe  
Oh I believe (I), yes I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
Oh I believe (oh)

In a world with a lot of love, there is also a lot of hate. When others judge us for who we are or tell us we will never be enough, we have to remember that God's say is the only say that truly matters. In today's society, many people express themselves through social media. We try to please others, get the most "likes", and create a name for ourselves. However, as we heard in the song, Jesus is where "we find [our] worth, where we find [our] identity." Even when we don't see ourselves for who we truly are (as others on social media may see us), God knows us and loves us. We never have to be afraid to be ourselves with Him. In fact, we can use social media to help spread God's love and blessings with others. Social media is not bad; it depends on whether the people using it are good!