

College Meeting 2: Service and Justice

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. WHAT ARE WE DOING WHEN WE DO SERVICE?

a. Service helps build community and the Common Good. When serving, we are being invited in different degrees into someone's community, home, and life. We must receive this invitation with humility and responsibility. However, often times, our actions can have effects that we didn't intend. Therefore, we must look critically at what it is that we do, when we do service. And make sure that all our actions are informed and directed toward the common good as much as possible.

3. A DAY WITHOUT DIGNITY VIDEO

- a. Often times, we assume that all service is automatically a good thing. However, sometimes our actions can have unintended effects that are unhelpful or even hurtful to communities. Therefore, we must think critically about what we are doing before we do it. We always begin with the needs and the requests of the community in mind.
- b. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EaSlKqs6Fo
- c. What are your reactions to the video?
- d. Good intentions are not enough, but, doing nothing also denies the needs of our brothers and sisters. So, how do we serve responsibly?

4. DECIDE ON YOUR TYPE OF SOCIAL ACTION

a. There are many different approaches to service and working for change. The most successful actions are the ones that consider the needs of the community, the situation and type of work being done, and the skills of the volunteers, and then pick a type of service which best fits these needs.



- b. Run the "Tornado Warning" activity.
- c. Have each group go around and say why they chose their type of action, why it's the best for them, and what's problematic about the other types of action.
- d. Follow-up questions:
 - i. In your opinion, is there a hierarchy of approaches, with some types of social action always being preferable to other types? Or, does the best approach change from situation to situation?
 - ii. How would you decide which type of social action to use when?
 - iii. Think about the service work Bethlehem Farm does. What type(s) of social action do you think will be present during your week at Bethlehem Farm?
 - iv. What types of social action do you think you can implement in your own community right now?

5. CLOSING PRAYER

