

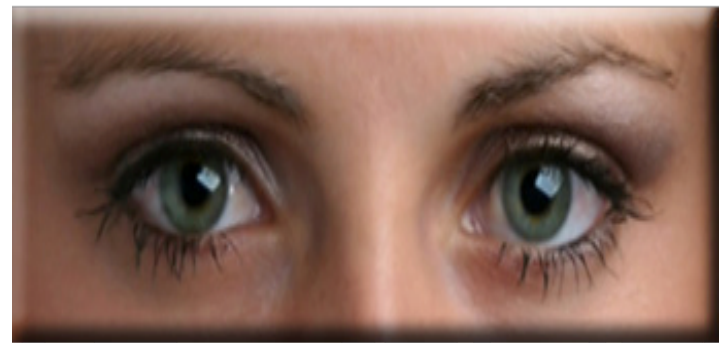
*Write down the Vision
clearly upon the tablets
so that one can read it
readily.*



*For the Vision
still has it's time,
presses on to fulfillment,
and will not disappoint.*



*If it delays,
wait for it.*



Habakkuk 2:3

A project of the
National Initiative on
Adolescent Catechesis



THE CONFIRMATION PREP PROJECT



“ratification of Baptism, thus completing Christian initiation, and the strengthening of baptismal grace” CCC1289

“the completion of baptismal grace” CCC1285,1303,1303



CONFIRMATION

How can we enhance Confirmation prep's ability to be a more formative experience in the lives of young people?



583,000 Confirmed in 2013



UNCHAINING CONFIRMATION

What kind of
experience
did they
have?



EVALUATIVE QUESTION

Potential enhancements to Conf Prep

Enhance the FOCUS

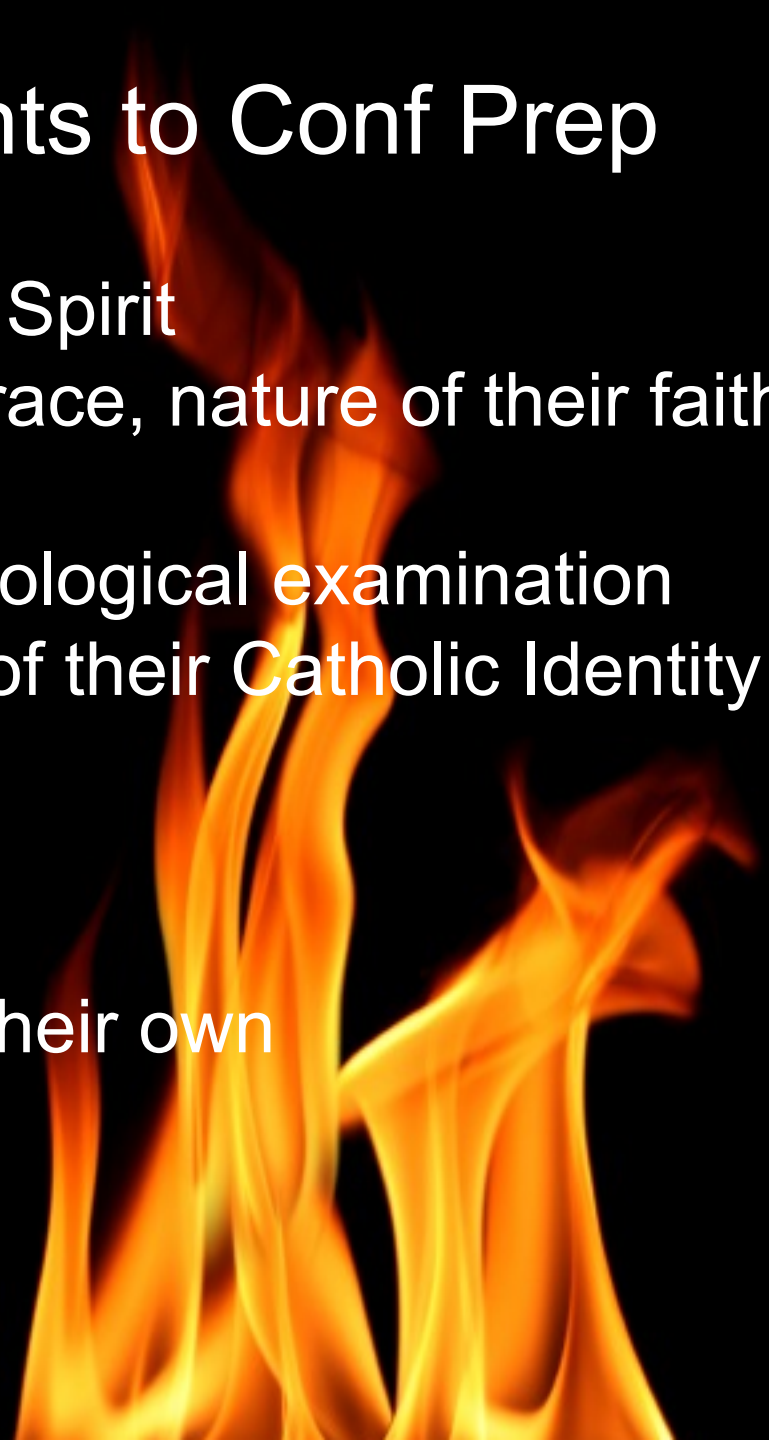
1. Increased sensitivity to the Spirit
2. Articulate experiences of grace, nature of their faith, grasp of the Tradition
3. Challenging moral and theological examination
4. Evaluation and ownership of their Catholic Identity

Enhance the PROCESS

1. Spiritual Growth Plan
2. Some formational work on their own
3. Mentoring

INTENTIONALLY

Teaching For Discipleship



1. Suppose we help them to develop spiritual sensitivities and awakenings?

“The maker of
Heaven and
earth,

of all things
VISIBLE
and
INVISIBLE.”

Enhance the focus

...should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and *a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit—his actions, his gifts, his biddings* —in order to become more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life.” CCC 1309



PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

“The world is crowded with God.
The real labor is to remember,
to attend.
In fact,
to come awake.
Still more.
To remain awake.”

C.S. Lewis

AWAKENINGS

2. Suppose we help them
evaluate and own
the nature of their Catholic Identity?



Enhance the focus


April 1



Associated Press

Public Privacy

A makeshift outdoor confessional provides spiritual comfort to Roman Catholics in La Vang, in central Vietnam. The people at right are waiting their turns.



*I stand at the door
and knock...*

3. Suppose we
helped them
imagine *the call
and practices* of
discipleship?

Enhance the focus



Can someone
be a *believer* but
not a *disciple*?

A *disciple* is
different than a
believer. How?

REDISCOVER THE
“TRADITION OF THE CALLING”

D. SCHON



STUDIES the
ways of the One

and

LIVES by them

DISCIPLE

Discipleship

for the good of the World

**within a Community
of Disciples**

**and the will of
God.**



LIFE AFTER CONFIRMATION

Putting an end to Confirmation as The End

Life after Confirmation

Discipleship ...

within a Community of Disciples...

for the good of the World

and the glory of God.

4. Suppose we
engaged in meeting
them where they are...

And driving them out
of their minds ...

For a minute?

Enhance the focus



so they can consider:

The mind of Others

The mind of Christ

The mind of the Church

Challenging Moral
and
Theological reflection

Enhance the focus



5. Suppose we help them to develop

The skills

and the language

to *articulate*
the nature of their faith...
their experiences of grace...

Enhance the focus


...and their grasp of Tradition



6. Suppose we asked them to develop a Spiritual Growth Plan?



Enhance the process



30 Days = 60 minutes

1 Day
(16hrs) = 2 minutes

8 Hours = 1 minute

IF A MONTH WAS AN HOUR



How do you want
to spend your
minute?

NEW CATECHETICAL QUESTION



How can we
help them
use some of
their 59
minutes?

NEW CATECHETICAL QUESTION



7. What we can
help them to
do on their
own...

but not alone?

Invest in the adolescent isolate.

R. Dykstra

Enhance the process



8. MENTORING ENVIRONMENT

Small group leaders
Co-sponsors
On site Service organizers
Post retreat follow-up
Parish supporters

Enhance the process

Which enhancement interests you most?

- Increased Spiritual sensitivities
- Evaluate and own their Catholic identity
- The Call and Practices of discipleship
- Challenging moral and theological engagement
- Articulation of faith, grace, and Tradition
- Forming a Spiritual Growth Plan
- Some formation on their own, but not alone
- a Mentoring environment

WHAT KIND OF EXPERIENCE
WILL THEY HAVE?

Challenges facing our Confirmation prep program

TEAM

THEME

TOOL(s)

TECHNIQUE(s)

Inductive: Life Faith Response

Deductive: Faith Life Response

This dialogue between faith and life is
“the profound drama of our time.” (Pope Paul VI)

“Faith that does not connect to life is dead.
Life that is not illuminated by faith is blind.”
(Cardinal Ratzinger, 1983)

Inductive and Deductive Methodology

The catechist is essentially a mediator and a knowledgeable disciple, engaging young people through a variety of methods , activities, and learning approaches, including the use of media, music, memorization, group dynamics, liturgy and prayer.

Helping young people read their experiences along with the questions and needs raised in light of the Gospel.

Offering them a spiritually challenging vision that helps young people meet their hunger to participate in the noble adventure of discipleship.

(GDC 3152-156, NDC p.201,202,224)

- Spiritual sensitivities/ awakenings
- Evaluated Catholic identity
- Call to the practices of discipleship
- Moral and theological engagement
- Articulation of faith, grace, and Tradition
- Spiritual growth plan
- On their own, but not alone
- Mentoring environment

WHAT KIND OF EXPERIENCE
DID THEY HAVE?

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