

Authority and Presence

TRINITY SUNDAY . YEAR B

1. Gather & Share Food / Drink

25 MINS

2. Worship Music 10 MINS

3. Read the Sunday Gospel 5 MINS

MATTHEW 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them.

He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

4. Personal Sharing based on the Gospel

5-10 MINS

In the weeks before meeting today, a member of the group was invited to prepare a short, 5-10 minute sharing on how this Gospel reading connects with their life and relationship with Jesus. They have considered the questions below in the process of preparing their sharing:

- a. What has discipleship meant for you and in what ways has it reflected the ultimate authority of Jesus, as Son of God, over your life and work?
- b. Jesus affirms his presence with us at all times. Share how you have experienced this reality within your own life?

5. Smaller Group Discussion

20 MINS

Break into smaller sharing groups of 3-5 people and discuss the following questions.

- a. In a sentence or two, what has been a high point and a challenge since we last met?
- b. What from the personal sharing spoke to your heart and what you've experienced in your life?
- c. What else from the Gospel resonated with you?

6. Prayer in **Small Groups**

15 MINS

Remain in your smaller discussion groups for a time of prayer.

- a. Conscious of what has just been shared, members briefly name/describe their prayer needs.
- b. Intentionally call on the Holy Spirit to be present (e.g. "Come Holy Spirit, please be present as we pray")
- c. Move to prayers of thanks and praise to God
- d. Prayer for each other's prayer needs. Where appropriate, you may like to encourage the group to place a hand on the shoulder of the individual that you are currently praying for.
- e. Conclude your prayer time with another prayer of praise, perhaps reciting the 'Glory Be' or similar prayer.

7. Closing Prayer

After people have had time to pray for one another in their smaller groups, a leader closes the evening with a final prayer in the large group.