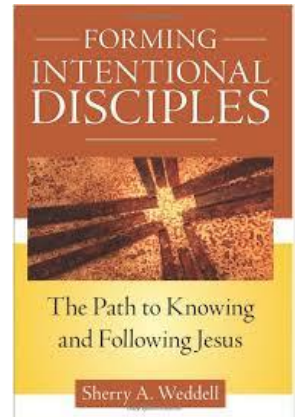


# Forming Intentional Disciples

## Book Study Night #1

### Chapters 1-2

*“In the twenty-first century, we have to foster intentional Catholicism rather than cultural Catholicism.” Pg 39*



### Chapter 1: God Has No Grandchildren

#### Thoughts to Ponder

- “National studies have revealed that those who leave the Church do not, by and large return.” Pg. 16
- “Religion identity is not stable but remarkably fluid.” Pg. 16
- “‘unaffiliated’ today is no necessarily akin to ‘unbelief’...” Pg. 20
  - Believers who didn’t regard themselves as belonging anywhere
  - See stats on pgs. 20-21
  - religion had little to no importance for them
- Presumptions we Make pg. 31
- Personal Relationship pg. 44

#### Stats:

- 53% of American adults have left the faith of their childhood at some point
  - 9% left and returned
- 60% of Seattle inhabitants affiliated as “Nones”
- 30% of Americans raised Catholic are still “practicing” (they attend Mass once a month)
- 38% hold the Catholic identity, but seldom or never attend Mass
- 32% no longer consider themselves Catholic (spiritual needs not met)
- **Average age people are leaving the Church is 10 years old!**
  - 15% become protestant
  - 14% become nones
  - 50% gone by 18 y/o
  - 80% gone by early 20’s
  - 3% other

*“They do not know that an explicit, personal attachment to Christ-personal discipleship-is normative Catholicism as taught by the apostles and reiterated time and time again by the popes, councils, and saints of the Church.” Pg 46*

## **Chapter 2: We Don't Know What Normal Is**

*“Transmitting the faith is an organic, whole-life concept that goes far beyond instruction in facts and doctrines.” Pg. 52*

### **Thoughts to Ponder**

- “If a living relationship with Christ and, therefore, his Father and the Holy Spirit, does not exist, we have not succeeded in “transmitting” the faith.” Pg. 53
- Three Spiritual Journeys, pg. 54
- Vision and Values Reflection pg. 60
- Labeling, pg. 63
- Paradigms, pg. 67

### **HOLY REDEEMER OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION VISION AND VALUES**

#### Parish Vision/Mission:

- Vision: Evangelize East Vancouver
- Mission: Glorify God and Sanctify Souls

#### Faith Formation (team, volunteers, etc) Vision/Mission/Values:

- Vision: The Church is filled with intentional missionary disciples
- Mission: Souls are inspired to become intentional missionary disciples through:
  - witness, encounter, fellowship, mission, leadership
- Values
  - Witness: Teach the beauty and love of orthodox truth by testimony and catechesis
  - Encounter: Provide opportunities to encounter the love of God – especially in the Eucharist
  - Fellowship: Invite and welcome everyone – accompany those who come
  - Mission: Our daily walk with Christ informs and shapes our service to God and neighbor
  - Leadership: Innovative and responsive programming to help people find their telos

*“Faith is above all a personal, intimate encounter with Jesus, and to experience his closeness, his friendship, his love; only in this way does one learn to know him ever more, and to love and follow him ever more. May this happen to each one of us.” –Pope Benedict XVI*