

Process for *Growing Faith*

In households.

At the parish.

In small communities.

With youth and young adults.

At the nursing home.

With parents of school age children.

At parish meetings.

1. Gather those who are going to take part for this session.
2. Make sure everyone knows everyone else. If there are newcomers or strangers, name tags are a great way to become familiar with each other.
3. As folks gather, even within the household or small group, play sacred music as a way of setting the stage and preparing the mind and heart.
4. It's always part of Christian hospitality to have food and refreshments to share. As your group gathers, members can help provide this on a rotating basis.
5. Once everyone is introduced and settled, begin with a brief period of breaking open the word or faith sharing based on the Liturgy of the Word from the previous Sunday. Notes on how to do this are included in other whole community catechesis resources. Keep this to a maximum of fifteen minutes.
6. Then simply follow the notes in the facilitator's guide (which are reproducible) and work your way through the ***Growing Faith*** booklet for that evening. Take your time and do not rush this process. Let everyone have a chance to share, wonder about things aloud, or express his or her beliefs. If you don't get all the way to the end, save it for next time!
7. Encourage people to write notes in their booklets, to personalize them and own them. You may wish to three hole punch them and provide ring binders in which to store them as you proceed.
8. At the end, make sure everyone knows when the next gathering will be held.