THE THREE CONVERSATIONS

Your parish culture should include evangelization and discipleship, but it doesn't have to be sophisticated or complicated. It starts very simply with honest and vulnerable conversations and naturally grows and spreads from one person to another. Here's a quick overview of the Three Conversations, which are easy exercises that can open the door to deepening the culture of discipleship at your parish.

Conversation 1

Pray together. Not just any type of prayer - this is about personal, vulnerable prayer. Start with the leader, letting everyone know what it is that you need prayers for in your life. Be real. And then have everyone else let the group know what is going on in their lives that needs prayer. And then pray together as a group. Pray over each person's intentions and ask God to work in each person's life.

Conversation 2

Share your faith journey. Starting with the leader, give a brief summary of how you came to know Jesus, how He's worked in your life, and where you are now in your personal story. Then have everyone else take five or ten minutes to share their story: where they've come from, where they are now, and where they hope to go. Don't overthink or over-complicate this one. Keep it simple.

Conversation 3

Again, beginning with the leader, talk about how the work you do and the way you live your life contributes to the ministry and mission of the Church. How do you personally help bring people to Jesus? Tell them what you do that has the greatest impact on people's faith lives – that should be easy – and then ask them to do the same. The goal here is to help people see how they can (and already do) witness the faith to people in their lives, no matter what their role is at the parish.

