



MAKE Discussion Group Planning Guide

MAKE is a wonderful resource for small group discussion, as it's been created in a way for readers to reflect upon its content individually or with others. Below are some ways to structure a small group around Bishop Hicks' pastoral letter:

1: Use the discussion questions in the back written as-is over one session

There are twenty-three questions on page 17, and assuming all participants have read the letter beforehand, you could review the questions in a group within a 90-minute session. We always recommend beginning with the Prayer to MAKE Disciples found on page 2. This option may work best for a group already meeting, that is looking for content for an open date, or for a parish evening of discussion with small group leaders, so more in the parish can participate.

2: Break the content up over 3 to 5 sessions, including some custom questions

This is best when MAKE is being used as a standalone series or discussion group. The sections split up nicely as follows:

- Session 1: Introduction and A Renewed Focus (pages 3 & 4)
- Session 2: First, Be Made (pages 5–10)
- Session 3: A Fifth Foundation, Preaching and Living the Gospel, and Conclusion (pages 11–16)

Each meeting could be roughly one hour and begin with the Prayer to MAKE Disciples. Ideally, the discussion leader would use the questions on page 17, and/or create some customized questions based on the needs of the group. Another option would be to split it up into five discussion sessions as follows:

- Session 1: Introduction and A Renewed Focus (pages 3 & 4)
- Session 2: First, Be Made, Conversion and Confession (pages 5–7)
- Session 3: First, Be Made, Communion and Commission (pages 8–10)
- Session 4: A Fifth Foundation (pages 11 & 12)
- Session 5: Preaching and Living the Gospel, and Conclusion (pages 14–16)

3: Use MAKE for a discussion group and workshop

The third option would be for a longer one-time session where readers both discuss the content of MAKE and then spend some time creating their own personal game plan for implementation, using this resource from the MAKE website. The flow of the event could be:

- 90 minutes using the format described above in option one
- Break
- 90 minutes focused on participants creating their own "Personal Gameplan" using the resources at make.diojoliet.org

While this is not an exhaustive list, it provides several ideas for how parishes, campus ministries or even families can structure discussion groups around MAKE. If you have any questions, please email us at make@dioceseofjoliet.org.

