

2018 Franciscan University of Steubenville Youth Conference Small Group Discussion Questions

Small Group Tips:

- Remember to keep your questions open ended. (Avoid yes/no questions.)
- Silence is okay in a small group. Sometimes the youth need time to think and process the questions before answering them.
- As the leader of the small group, avoid talking too much. This is a time for the youth to process their thoughts. If they have questions or need mentoring, give a shorter answer and let them know you can talk more together after the small group.
- The questions below are meant to be a springboard for you to ask further questions and facilitate conversation among the group. You do not need to ask every question. Feel free to ask follow-up questions as they process. You can ask even more specific questions from the keynote content.

Friday Evening Small Group Discussion Questions:

Friday Night Keynote Scripture: Luke 15: 11-32

- How do you view God? How do you think God views you?
- What two words would you use to describe your relationship with God the Father right now?
- What makes it difficult to believe that God is your Father?
- What attribute of the Father's love is most difficult for you to believe or grasp? Why?
- Can you describe a time when you felt God's love?
- What does it mean to you that you are loved by God?
- Compare your journey with the Prodigal Son's journey in the Gospel story. What point in his story most closely relates to where you are now? What stuck out to you most in the Gospel?
- In what way has God revealed His Fatherhood to you?
- What was your experience of worship and Adoration?
- What did you reflect on during the meditation? What stuck out to you most during the meditation?
- What is one thing you would like God to do in your life this weekend?

Saturday Afternoon Small Group Discussion 1 Questions:

- From Mass this morning, what struck you about celebrating Mass with a large group of people?
 - Follow-up this question with an encouragement on how to participate more fully in Mass at their home parish. Also, help them to see the connection between the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration.
- Men's Session Questions:
 - Men's Session Scripture: Genesis 2: 4-7, 18-23 (Second Creation Account)
 - As men, what is our true identity?
 - How can we live our identity in Christ?
 - How does the world try to reduce our identity as men about who we are and who God made us to be?
 - What are the lies the world tells you about it means to be a man? How do these lies make it challenging to live as men of God?
 - What are some of the unique, complementary gifts from God given specifically to men? How can we use these gifts to reveal God to all those that we encounter?

- How can we look to the saints as our model of real masculinity? What virtues and gifts do you see in the saints that we should model?
- What particular virtue/gift do you feel called to grow in? How can you grow?
- Women's Session Questions:
 - Women's Session Scripture: Genesis 2: 4-7, 18-23 (Second Creation Account)
 - As women, what is our true identity?
 - How can we live our identity in Christ?
 - How does the world try to reduce our identity as women about who we are and who God made us to be?
 - What are the lies the world tells you about it means to be a woman? How do these lies make it challenging to live as women of God?
 - What are some of the unique, complementary gifts from God given specifically to women? How can we use these gifts to reveal God and His Fatherly love to all those that we encounter?
 - How can we look to the Blessed Mother and other saints as our model of real femininity? What virtues and gifts do you see in Mary and other saints that we should model?
 - What particular virtue/gift do you feel called to grow in? How can you grow?

Saturday Afternoon Small Group Discussion 2 Questions:

- What workshops did you attend? What stood out to you most from the presentations? What are some practical take-ways from the workshops?
 - This is a good opportunity for the youth to share with one another about the content of the workshops. They can learn about the workshop they did not attend by hearing from those that did attend.
- What is the greatest obstacle in your life to recognizing God's Fatherly love and all of the ways He reveals that love to you?
- What are some ways you feel you are being called to change?
- What is one additional thing you want the Lord to do in your heart this weekend?
- Saturday Afternoon Keynote
 - o Saturday Afternoon Keynote Scripture: 1 John 4: 11-12
 - What does it mean to be in relationship with others? What are characteristics of good, healthy relationships?
 - How has social media impacted your friendships?
 - How have you seen God's love revealed in your relationships?
 - How can you reveal His love in your relationships?
 - What is your relationship like with your family? How might you be able to improve those relationships?
 - What are some of the practical steps for someone to build and maintain a healthy relationship with family, friends, God, etc.?

Saturday Evening Small Group Discussion Questions:

Saturday Night Keynote Scripture: John 3:16 ("For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.")

- What about the talk most impacted you? What area of your life did the talk most make you consider?
- What is the ultimate revelation of God's love?
- What does the Cross mean to you? Is it hard to believe that Christ died for you personally? Why?
- How can your suffering impact and benefit you and others?
- How does God reveal Himself in our suffering?
- What cross have you carried that ultimately led to an experience of victory/hope by uniting yourself with Christ?

- Has there been a time in your life that you experienced a sincere need for God, His love, mercy and help?
- How can you more fully commit your life to Christ? If you could ask Jesus for one thing that would help you follow Him more closely, what would be it be?
- What did God do in your heart tonight during Eucharistic Adoration? Did he speak anything specifically to you?
 - Help the youth understand that even if they didn't feel anything, God is still working in their lives and calling them to an intimate relationship with Him.
- Do you have any questions about what you experienced tonight?

Sunday Small Group Discussion (maybe for the ride home):

Sunday Morning Keynote Scripture: Luke 24: 13-35 (Road to Emmaus)

- What is one thing you can do to foster your relationship with Christ after the conference and every day?
- How can Christ be a part of your everyday activities?
- Why is it important to pray every day? How will you strive to pray every day?
- How will you stay connected with youth group, friends, community who are striving to live as followers of Christ?
- How can you share your faith with others?
- What are some ways you can serve Christ and reveal His love to others?
- Who is the Holy Spirit and why is it important to have a relationship with Him?
- How can you pray for more of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- In what areas of your life do you most need the Holy Spirit to help you and be with you?
- If you could ask the Holy Spirit for two things to be a better disciple, what would they be?
- What did your experience at this conference show you about God's love and His plan for your life?
- What are some challenges you are going to face in going home?
- What will you do if you struggle to live your life in Christ or the circumstances at home make it challenging to live your faith?
- How can you bring this conference experience back to your parish, youth group, high school, family, etc.?
- What did you hear this weekend that gives you hope for going back home today? (Continue to ask questions based on what you know about each of the youth in your small group and how they experienced this weekend conference)