

# Inspirations and Charisms Worksheet

An “originating inspiration” is an image or vision of how one or more people may generously and effectively respond to a real need in the world. Every institution that continues its work in a meaningful, relevant way must remain deeply connected to its originating inspiration; its original vision must continue to inspire its members. In the context of religious communities, such a vision is generally called a **charism**, a special grace of the Holy Spirit given for the good of the Church.

**Part 1: Respond to the following questions and prompt at home after reading the statement you received. You will share your work with your group members in class.**

- After reading the statement you were given, how would you describe the originating inspiration or charism of this religious congregation or order?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Write a short summary of the statement of the religious order or congregation that you read, including whether the group is monastic, semi-monastic, or apostolic (working in the world).
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What is the focus of the work or apostolate for this congregation, insofar as you can tell?



- What do you believe could be the most important service to the Church that this particular group can provide to the world today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What did you take away from the statement that can serve as inspiration for your own life?

**Part 2: Answer the following questions in class with your primary group, and then with your combined group:**

1. What are the charisms you found in each of the statements?

Statement A:

Statement B:

Statement C:

Statement D:

Statement E:

Statement F:



2. What do the statements have in common? Provide several examples.

3. How are the statements different? Provide several examples.

4. If you had to choose one charism to unify all six statements, which would it be?

