

Helping the Church of Today and Tomorrow



Spreading the Word

You are members of the church who are in charge of sharing Jesus' message with young people who do not know about him yet. Remember, you were there in the beginning; you saw Jesus and loved him and watched him die. You have faith in him, but some young people have never experienced him. Develop three means of letting them know about Jesus.

Worshiping

You as a group are responsible for the sacramental life of the church. Jesus left several signs of his presence to help the church carry on in memory of him and his message. How would you make the following experiences real and meaningful to other young people?

- a. *Baptism*. How should young people be initiated into the church? Who should be initiated? What kind of preparation should they go through?
- **b.** *The Eucharist.* When should the Eucharist be available? How often should we gather for it? How old should one be to participate?
- **c.** *Orders.* Do we need priests? If so, how should we determine who is qualified for the priesthood? And what should a priest's responsibilities be?
- **d.** *Penance.* Does the community need to recognize sin and evil and to be reconciled? If so, in what way?

Responding

The church is called by Jesus to be a witness to his values, particularly regarding poor and oppressed people. How should Christians respond in the following areas?

- a. War. Should the church publicly oppose all war?
- **b.** *Poverty.* Should wealthy nations share with nations less fortunate than they are, and if so, how? For example, should all members of the church in wealthy nations be required to give to a fund for the poor?
- **c.** *Current social issues.* Should the church take a public stand on issues such as abortion, pornography, and the environment?