



Why host additional Christian Formation?

God is always calling us to grow and learn. Exploring the foundational basics of the Christian faith is just the beginning of a lifelong process of maturing in Christ. When we are new to the faith or even returning after a long time away, it is important to reinforce the teaching and offer continuing opportunities to explore the fuller dimensions of our beliefs, spiritual practices and our commitment as disciples.

One benefit in assisting individuals to grow in their faith impacts the entire congregation. There is a deeper sense of genuine community realized when people study together, share honestly and wrestle with spiritual questions. There can also be a pastoral support dynamic that takes place as well as mutual accountability.

What are the benefits of offering follow-up Christian studies?

- Provide opportunities for deeper and more committed engagement in the basics of the faith.
- Continue to help congregations in their health and revitalization process.
- Newer members get in the habit of learning and sharing with others, not only growing in their identities as disciples, but also in relationships with other members.
- Lay leaders receive additional strengthening in the foundations of Christian teaching, including service and spiritual disciplines.
- Participants are further inspired to live out a lively faith in worship, giving and sharing ministry.
- Create a greater sense of intimacy and authenticity amongst members as they grow to trust, support and pray together.

BUILD ON THE SEVEN MARKS OF CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH:

* “The Healthy Churches’ Handbook: a Process for Revitalizing Your Church” outlines the Seven Marks of Health (as a reflection of the life of Christ):

- ✓ Energized by faith
- ✓ Outward-looking focus
- ✓ Seeks to find out what God wants
- ✓ Faces the cost of change and growth
- ✓ Operates as a community
- ✓ Makes room for all
- ✓ Does a few things and does them well

* (The Healthy Churches’ Handbook: A process for revitalizing your church, is by Robert Warren, Church House Publishing, London, 2004, 2012)



WE HAVE A GROWING LIST OF ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES:

Some of the Books:

- AFTER THE LEAP: GROWING IN CHRIST – THE BASICS OF DISCIPLESHIP
- BEGINNINGS: THE SPIRITUAL LIFE, HABITS OF THE HEART
- BEYOND BAPTISM
- CALL TO FOLLOW CHRIST: SIX DISCIPLINES FOR NEW AND GROWING BELIEVERS
- FIRST STEPS FOR THE NEW CHRISTIAN
- LEAP FOR FAITH
- SO THIS IS FAITH: BECOMING AN AUTHENTIC DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

Some of the Videos:

- BEGINNING IN CHRIST TOGETHER: THE LIFE OF JESUS
- DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORED
- EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY SPIRITUALITY
- GROWING TO BE LIKE CHRIST
- A LIFE WORTH LIVING

This database includes brief descriptions, including the format, topics, authors and suppliers.



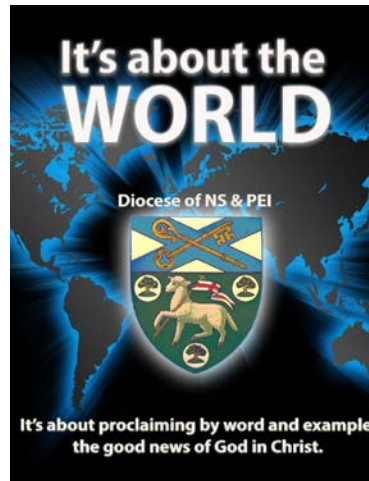
**TO ACCESS THE LIST AND
FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

VISIT: www.nspeidiocese.ca

Find the RESOURCES Menu,
then click the link “Christian Formation”

See also the links to:
It’s About the World
Diocesan Resource Centre
Building Healthy Parishes
Building Healthy Leaders

E-mail: innovation@nspeidiocese.ca



CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES



**TOOLS TO
HELP DEEPEN
FAITH UNDERSTANDING
AND INSPIRE ACTIVE
DISCIPLESHIP**