

JOURNEY OF FAITH

Preview Sheet

John McGrath – Jmcgrath02@gmail.com

Welcome to Ministry Formation! You are about to launch a two-year immersion into an experience of spiritual renewal and ministerial growth. This first class asks you to think about what it means for you to be doing this. To prepare for this class, please consider these questions concerning your life of faith:

- *What brought you to Ministry Formation at this point in your life?*
- *Has your faith changed as you've matured?*
- *Who or what has been an influence on your development in the Catholic faith?*
- *Do you think it's okay to have doubts about your faith?*
- *How do you know if you're actually growing in your faith?*
- *Will the faith you learned and practiced growing up be enough to get you through the challenges of later life?*

As we explore answers to these questions, it is natural for us to reflect on progressive stages of faith that accompany a growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This will be the topic for our first class.

Prior to our JOURNEY OF FAITH class:

1. Read the Catholic Update, "How God Invites Us to Grow: Six Stages of Faith Development"
2. Reflect on the six stages of faith outlined in the Catholic Update and be prepared to share your response to this question: What insights does James Fowler's theory of faith development offer you about your own life of faith?

We will use the material in this Catholic Update and your reflections to examine the relationships between the stages of faith development and your personal faith journey, the faith experiences of the people of God, and your call to serve as a public minister of the church.