

## WHO DO

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## SAY I AM?

**Summer Series Overview** 

#### SEVEN WEEKS, Tuesday 6:30-8:30

June 19 Introduction

June 26 Being Christian

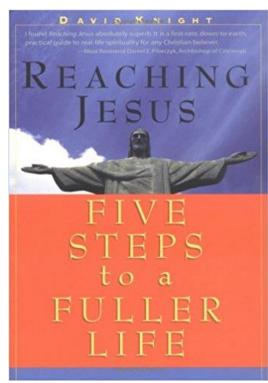
July 3 Being a Disciple

July 10 Being a Prophet

July 17 BEING A PRIEST

July 24 Being a King/Steward

July 31 Celebration





# First Step: The Choice to Be a Christian

If I were writing the history of my life, what three choices could I identify which made me the person I am?

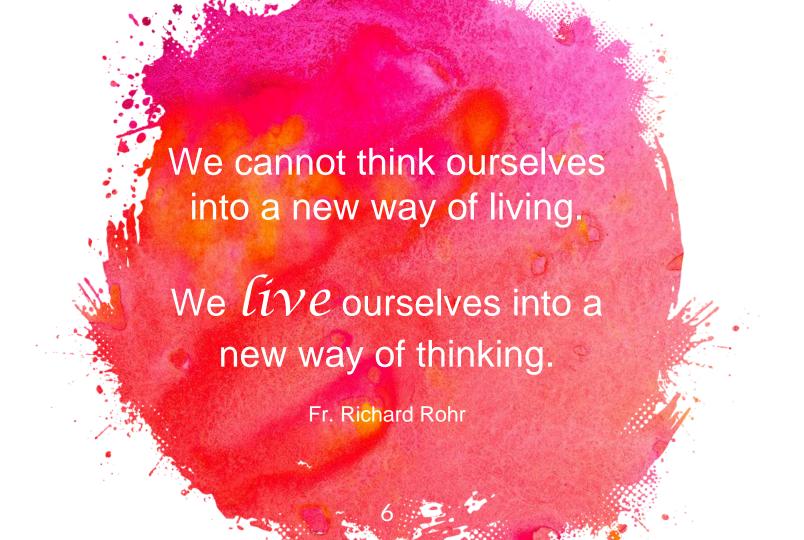
Is Jesus one of the choices?



### The Second Step to a Fuller Life: The Choice to Be a Disciple

What area of my life could benefit the most from learning more about the attitudes, values and promises of Jesus?





We are ANOINTED into the MISSION of Jesus Christ

"As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life."

The Rite of Baptism for Children

### The Third Step to a Fuller Life:

## The Choice to Be a Prophet

What do I say, do, wear, buy, use or own now that is not bad, but which seems to say that other values are more important to me than the values Jesus proclaimed?



The Fourth Step:

The Choice to Be a Priest

Dying to self-enclosed religion; Rising to ministry.



# What is religion



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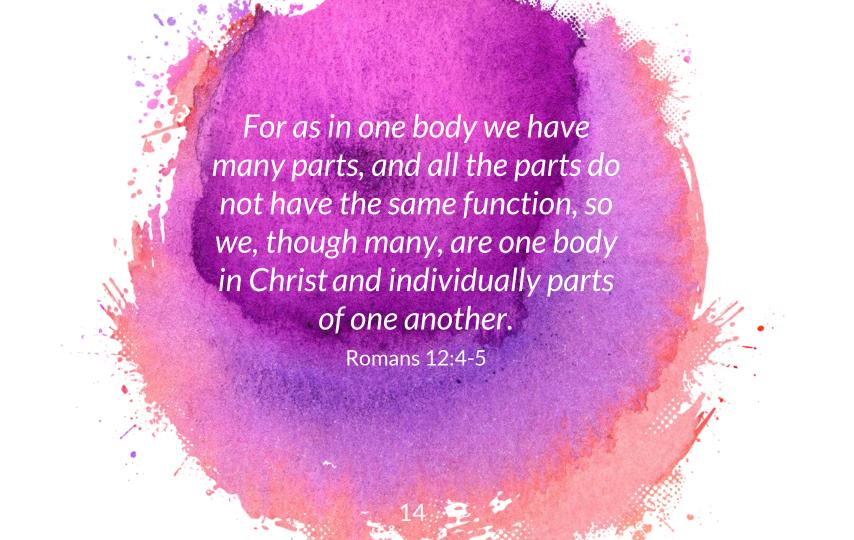
What does it mean to be a member of the Body of Christ?



What does it mean to be a member of the Body of Christ?

We are interdependent.





Christianity exists in community.

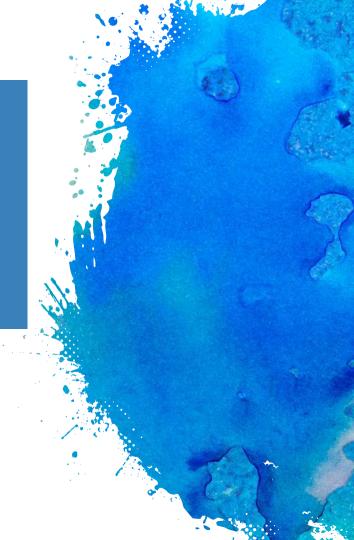
Our faith is always *personal*, but never *private*.



Priesthood is only intelligible within a context and acceptance of community.

Those who receive the sacrament of Holy Orders are never ordained for their private personal benefit. p.65

This is true of all priesthood for all the baptized.



### Jesus is the High Priest

Jesus "did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28







To be baptized is to be consecrated to ministry, to service, to dying to one's self in order to live totally for God and for other people in love.

It is to accept the community dimension of our religion and give ourselves as bread to be broken and eaten for the life of the world. p.65

To minister as priests is to mediate the life of God to others in love. p.66

"Do this in memory of me."



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Do what?



"Do this in memory of me."

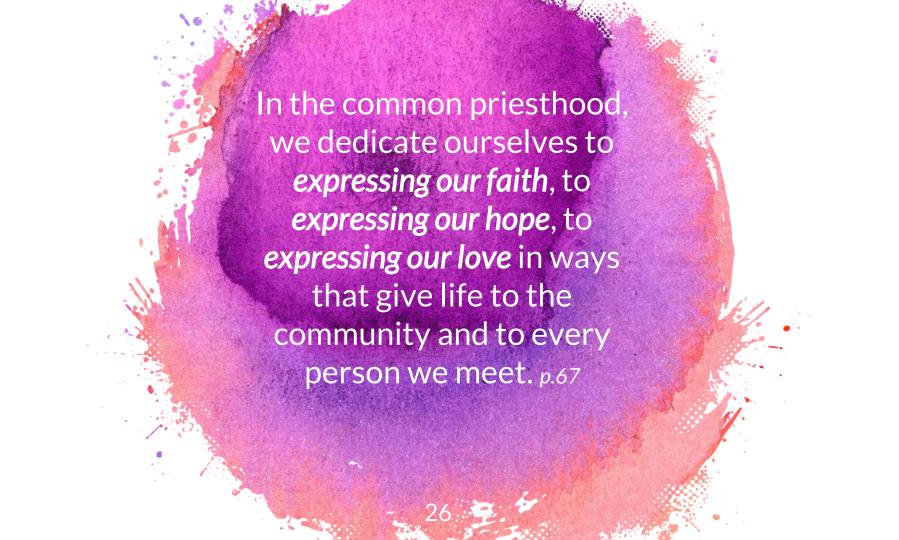
TAKE. BLESS. BREAK. GIVE.



The Word became flesh and dwells among us. Fr. Ronald Rolheiser

THIS IS MY BODY.





Why don't we express what is inside?

Why don't we break the ice and smile or say a personal word?

Why don't we compliment people for the good we see?

Why do we kneel alone at the back of the church?

Why do we pick a spot apart from others at Mass?

Why are we reluctant to talk about religion, prayer?

Why are we afraid of praying out loud with others?

Why don't we sing in church and respond with celebration?

Why don't we participate like active ministers?

Why don't we take responsibility for the impact of the liturgy?

Do we think only the ordained are there to minister?

# FEAR



## Jesus emptied himself, ... being born in human likeness. Philippians 5:7

If the reasons we give for not revealing ourselves to others are valid, then God should never have taken flesh in Jesus.

God knew that if he revealed his true self to the human race, his attitudes and values would be misunderstood and rejected.

He would be misunderstood and rejected. p.73

### **Ephesians 4:11-16**

We are called to "build up the body of Christ... living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ."



How you do it is how you'll do it.

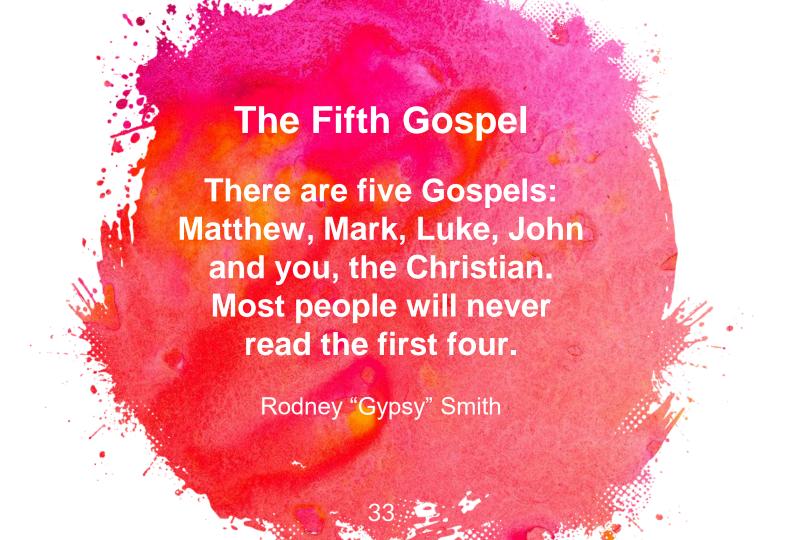
Fr. Richard Rohr

If we are conscious of our priesthood at Mass, we will probably be conscious of it outside of Mass.

In everything we do, we are called to offer our flesh for the life of the world. p.72-73







### The Choice to be a Priest:

What can I do to live up to my baptismal consecration as priest?

How can I mediate the life of God to others by giving physical expression to the divine truth, the divine love, that are within me?

Concretely and specifically, how, when, where will I do this?



## **Next Session**

July 24, 6:30-8:30

"The Choice to Be a Steward"



