Not So Far Afield

We offer these pages as a quick meeting format or for you to enjoy by yourself.

EASY MEETING:
TRAILBLAZERS IN HABITS
Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland Chapter

Preparation:

1. In your meeting announcement, suggest to chapter members that before the meeting they go to the DVD web site: trailblazersinhabits.com, and preview the video clips. Someone in your chapter might want to order and own the video and show it in its entirety at your gathering. The video could also be used later as part of an educational effort in your parish or school.


3. Read this page and preview the video clips online or on the DVD. Locations of the video clips on the DVD are noted in parentheses.

4. Equipment: If using video clips from the website, an Internet connection will be needed. Gathering around a computer screen may be adequate for a small group. A larger group could use a video projector or television. Determine what you will need and arrange to have the appropriate equipment and connecting cords available.

5. Test the equipment and Internet connection beforehand.

MEETING PLAN

Opening Prayer: The following prayer is one option, or you may wish to read “the Prayer of St. Francis,” or select another prayer. One good source is The Maryknoll Book of Prayer, pp. 30 and 31.

Lord of all our troubled world:
We pray for all who suffer,
for refugees and orphans,
for families disrupted by war.
We pray for church workers and missionaries,
for all who work with the afflicted.
Help us to work for justice,
without which we have no right to peace.
—Sheila Cassidy, from Good Friday People, Orbis.

Viewing Clips/Discussion:

Each clip is about 2 minutes. We suggest several clips and discussion questions below, but all the clips are interesting.

6. On http://trailblazersinhabits.com/clips/, watch video clip #1 on the left. (DVD 34:40 - 36:40)
Discuss: What does this clip suggest to us in dealing with problems we encounter today?

7. Watch Video clip #3. (DVD 39:00 - 44:35)
Discuss: Have you found yourself in a situation where people were experiencing discrimination?
What did you do? What could you have done?

8. Watch Clip #5. (DVD 14:13 - 17:47)
Discuss: How do we deal with other ethnic groups today? How do Maryknollers deal with them?

Discuss: How or when have Maryknollers or the Maryknoll charism inspired you?
What new approaches to mission do we need to consider now?

Closing Prayer:
Reflect on the words of Mother Mary Joseph:
“God has yet a great work for us to do.”
Enjoy your community as is your practice.

Have you used an Easy Meeting? Tell us how it worked for you. Do you have any suggestions to improve the format?

Also, please share the topics and resources that led to an especially effective meeting for your chapter. We could feature them in future issues. Send to nsfa@maryknollaffiliates.org.