

God Revives Our World (GROW)

(We have facilitated this program in over 40 parishes in northeastern Ohio and across the country.)

The overall goal of the GROW journey is to foster within the faith community a strong sense of the spirituality of everyday, ordinary life, including that of work and relationships. We encourage a vision rooted in the faith tradition of the community in which God is recognized as present in all of life – calling us to tap into the corporate with divine wisdom, strength, justice and love.

We facilitate a process through which people come to view their relationships and their work (whatever productive activity they do) as a call and mission of loving service, which is meant to make the world a better, more productive place.

The heart of this process is the four-session GROW journey, which includes presentations, personal reflection time, music, prayer and fellowship. The gatherings would be facilitated by a member of the Heart to Heart mission team who, joined by members of the faith community's team, will present a format that helps people to better connect their faith and values with their daily activities. Below are brief descriptions of the themes for each session (sessions are usually four consecutive evenings, but this can be adapted).

For further information, including a GROW packet of materials, please contact Father Norm Douglas, by e-mail at fathernorm@livingfaithatwork.org or by phone, 330-434-3278.

Session One: *Where in the World Is Our God?*

Looks at how and where we have come to experience God in our lives and in what ways we are being called to open up more completely to the Lord's loving and guiding presence. Session concludes with the writing of a private, personal reflection to God.

Session Two: *How in the World Do We Relate?*

Explores the joys and struggles of relationships within the family, at work, and in the community – how we encounter God through one another and how our experience of God's love can strengthen, guide, and heal our human relationships. Session concludes with prayer for inner healing and reconciliation.

Session Three: *What in the World Do We Do and Why in the World Do We Do It?*

Looks at our world of activity, work and motivation – how our faith can better inspire and guide what we do and why we do it. Session concludes with an offering of our work gifts/abilities to God's service.

Session Four: *How in the World Do We Make A Difference?*

Explores how people of faith and the faith community as a whole can be a positive influence in the wider world of work and public life – motivates individuals to go forth as faith-filled and prayerful missionaries in all that they do. Session concludes with a commissioning service sending everyone forth with a renewed zeal to do God's work in the world.