Naked Truth Message Questions Week 2 Sept 29/Oct 1

Discussion to follow Ed's video clip/message: (time code 12:10)

According to this clip, why are we using the Catholic teaching of Theology of the Body during this series?

What impacted you most from Christopher West's teaching last weekend?

Discussion to follow the Christopher West clip:

- 1. If we were to make a menu that lists our human hungers and thirsts, what would be on the menu?
- 2. Describe ways that people invert their "rockets" in order to try to satisfy their deep desires (eros)?
- 3. How did Hugh Hefner attempt to cope with his hunger? In what sense was he right? (the body should not be dismissed, hidden or ignored)
- 4. Has your life experience been more similar to throwing the crumpled paper away or hanging onto the paper in its crumpled condition?
- 5. Christopher West expresses the vision that we have for The Naked Truth when he says, "We must reclaim what sin has twisted and distorted or we will never become the men and women we were meant to be." What two or three words come to mind when you describe the man or woman that you were meant to be?
- 6. Read Genesis 2:24. Earthly marriage was established by God in the beginning. According to Christopher West what is God's message inscribed in the bodies of male and female and in their union?

(Leaders: the answer should be something like this "God wanted His invitation to love and union with Him to be so clear that He inscribed it in the design of our bodies." But let your people give it a stab before you pull it together with the answer.)

7. Read the following scriptures. What words does God use to describe the relationship He is inviting us to?

Isaiah 54:5

Hosea 2:19

Isaiah 62:3-5

Ezekiel 16:8-14

Ephesians 5:31-32

Revelation 19:7-9

8. The design of our bodies speaks of an invitation to the only love that really satisfies. In what ways can we move toward God in ways that can really satisfy us?

Personal Reflection:

Spend 10 minutes as individuals writing your response to the following questions:

When you think of the crumpled paper representing your own broken view of male and female bodies and relationships what thoughts or feelings come to mind?

What is stopping you from handing your crumpled paper over to God and allowing Him to unfold it?

When have you experienced tastes of the fullness of God's love here and now?

Journey leadership's thoughts that might be helpful regarding the content of the weekend seminar:

Although the leadership at Journey does not accept all points of Catholic theology and even some portions of the teaching of Theology of the Body, we recognize its unique vision and beauty as a "Center Set" approach that is both Biblical and fits with our Journey DNA.

Other questions and clarifications:

We are NOT declaring that the totality of the weekend seminar is Journey's "stand". Using the words "Journey's stand" creates a feeling of "I'm in" or "I'm out". We do recognize the beauty of the teaching without embracing every point.

The foundation of this TOB teaching begins with God's love for and invitation to ALL to communion with Himself and with others. The Pope states, "The only adequate attitude toward a person is love." This means that those at Journey who reflect on this teaching and disagree with it are not loved or respected any less than those who agree. They are a part of our Journey community. Our task is to honestly reflect on God's invitation to each one of us in response to the Christopher West seminar.