

# **The People of God – The Church**

## **Group Discussion**

**Read the scripture and then consider the question based on the scripture and what you have learned this evening.**

1. Now the Lord said to Abram: "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**Gen 12:1-3, p. 10**

**Are you or have you been living your life with God and/or the Church in terms of a contract or in terms of a covenant?**

2. While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is the blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

**Matthew 26:26-28, p. 30**

**As members of the body of Christ, we are His hands and feet on earth. Where have you found Christ present in His Church? How has God asked you to make Christ present in the world?**

3. "...Jesus said to (Peter), 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' ...After this he said to him, 'Follow me.' "

**John 21:17-19, p. 116**

**Have you ever had to leave something familiar on faith? Where is the Church asking or where has the Church taken you that you do/didn't want to go?**

## **Prayer Homework**

### **Meditate on this Prayer Given to the Archdiocese of Edmonton by Archbishop Richard Smith**

*Heavenly Father,  
we come before you in praise and thanksgiving  
for you have called us to be your own.*

*You sent your Word  
to bring us truth  
and your Spirit to make us holy.  
Through them we come to know  
the Beauty that is You.*

*Draw us to a new encounter with Jesus, your Son.  
Deepen our love for His Church.  
Help us to embrace anew  
the beauty of our faith in all of its richness.*

*Empower us to see there is nothing more beautiful  
than our relationship with You,  
so that we may reflect to others your image,  
in which we have been created.*

*We pray that, rooted and grounded in your love,  
and through the healing power of the Cross of your Son,  
we may be strengthened for mission  
by your Holy Spirit.*

*We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

**From : The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, Nothing More Beautiful**

**<http://www.edmontoncatholic-church.com/beautiful.shtml>**

**"There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know Him and to speak to others of our friendship with Him." – Pope Benedict XVI**