Session 4: Paths to Transformation



Walking the Path of Synodality in the Footsteps of Pope Francis



A Six-Session Synodal Leadership Formation Course





Overview of Session

- Welcome & Overview
- Revisit Previous Session
- Scripture Reflection
- Discussion in Pairs
- Presentation: Synodality as a Path to Transformation
- Breakout Group Exercise
- Large Group Sharing
- Conclusion and Closing Prayer
- Looking to the Next Session









- Get to know one another more fully
- Listen openly to one another's values
- Connect personal values to a shared mission
- Q Examine assumptions and biases and practice a technique for recognizing them
- Understand how unconscious assumptions and biases can inhibit our transformation
- Commit to practicing synodality in daily life





A Tool for Discernment: Spiritual Conversations

Revisit





Scripture Reflection

Put Away Sin and
Put on Virtues
Colossians 3: 8-14





Small Group Sharing

Put Away Sin and
Put on Virtues
Colossians 3: 8-14





My Values & Virtues





Presentation on Synodality as a Path to Transformation

Participation • Communion • Mission





A Tool for Openness to Others







My beliefs are the truth.

The truth is obvious.

My beliefs are objective.









I am called to acknowledge that I have biases. Then, I educate myself about the people, culture, or organizations I hold biases about.

I am called to let other people challenge my assumptions.

I am called to be open to feedback.

I am called to embrace diverse perspectives. To be curious and seek information from various sources.



Ladder of Inference

I take action.

I act based on my conclusions.

5

I conclude.

My assumptions and interpretation of the facts form my conclusions.

I add interpretations.

With the selected facts, I make assumptions based on prior beliefs (possibly biases) and the meaning I give to my observations.

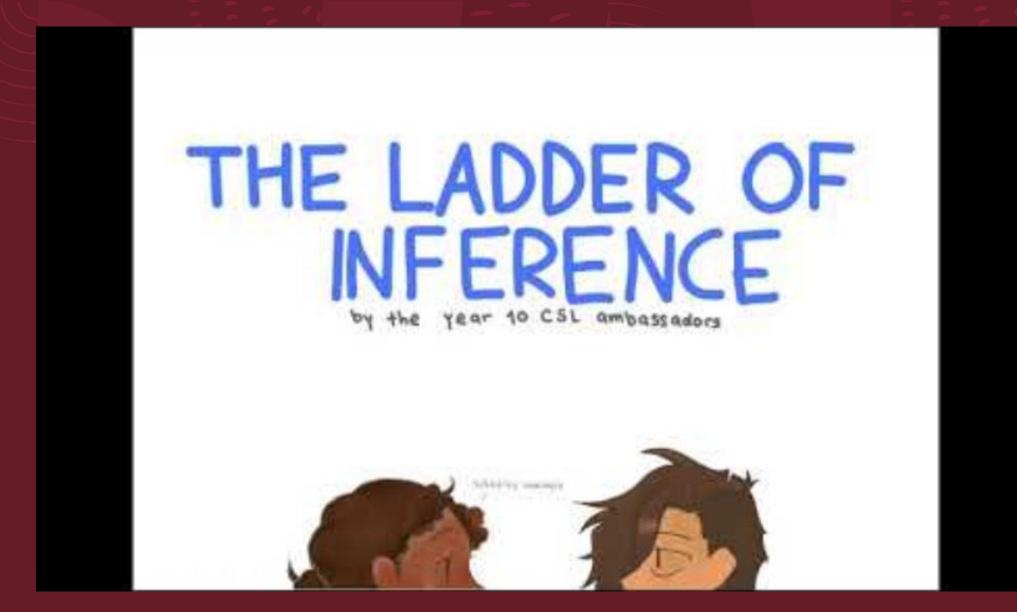
I select some information (facts).

We select data and facts based on convictions and prior experiences. Our frame of reference plays a role in this.

Reality and Facts

Facts are what a video camera would record of a situation.

2



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0-2ComvqmM



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Silent Reflection & Small Group

- 1. When did you make an assumption or hold a bias and later realize it was inaccurate?
- 2. How can you encourage others to help you question your assumptions?
- 3. How could you use the Ladder of Inference to help you remain open to other people's perspectives?





Large Group Sharing

- 1. What did you hear in your small group that would be good for the whole group to hear?
- 2. What are examples of how it could benefit our ministries if we helped people be more aware of the Ladder of Inference?





Concluding Commitments

What is your key takeaway from today?

 What commitment do you want to make regarding openness and biases for the next two weeks?







Looking to the Next Session

Assignment: Reading (in handout)

Reflection: Were there any ways you observed how the Ladder of Inference showed that different people can have alternative versions of the "truth?"

