

# *St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN*

## *The First Fifteen*

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling “The First Fifteen.” We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week’s weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

**Sunday, February 4, 2018**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23**

Brothers and sisters: If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

### **Questions to Ponder:**

In this second reading St. Paul describes his mission to preach the gospel. He becomes all things to all people to reach out to them on an equal basis. He uses all means to share the gospel of Jesus with those he encounters each and every day.

1. Have you ever felt called to share your faith and the gospel message with someone you live with, work with or just “run into”? How this turn out?
2. Each of us has been entrusted with stewardship just like St. Paul. In what ways can we as “every day” disciples make ourselves visible to the call to be “all things to all people?”
3. St. Francis says we must preach the gospel every day, and sometimes we have to use words. What do you think this means ?

Let’s end with the “**Glory Be**”

**“Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen”**