



WEEK OF 10 - 16

*We are all called to be missionaries in our own lives. Our parish is our mission field. Your neighborhood, office, family, classroom, etc. is your mission field. We have to understand what God has done for us and share that with others. Missions are more than just making a commitment to go on a trip or serve a meal once a month, it's viewing our lives as a mission to spread God's love to everyone we encounter. How do we help build the Kingdom of God here on earth?*

#### OPENING PRAYER

Lord God,  
You have given us a living hope through Jesus Christ.  
As we gather, open our hearts to recognize the hope You place within us.  
Help us to understand more deeply the faith we profess,  
and to be ready to live it with courage and joy.  
Send Your Holy Spirit upon us,  
that we may listen well, speak honestly,  
and grow in confidence to share Your love with others.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS](#)

First Reading: **Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

Responsorial: **Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20**

Second Reading: **1 Peter 3:15-18**

Gospel: **John 14:15-21**

#### ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

“Beloved: sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear.” **(1 Peter 3:15-17)**

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DIALOGUE

Take some time to reflect on this week's message and discuss with your group:

1. What are the environments and activities you find yourself in on a regular basis? In other words, what are your mission fields?
2. Who do you know in those environments that desperately need a relationship with Christ? What kind of relationship do you have with them?
3. Share in two to three minutes your spiritual testimony. How did you come to know God and have a relationship with Christ?
4. What opportunities do you have to share the reason for your hope with people in your mission field?
5. What is your next step to impact the people in your mission field for Christ?

### PRAY

- **Pray every day this week** for the person God has put on your heart. (Need ideas? Ask Him)
- **Pray for the ministries at SMIC and SJV**
- **Pray for those currently engaged in missionary work overseas**

### ACT

- **Write down your 2-3 minute testimony** - pray through it.
- **Sign up to serve in a new ministry** at SJV or SMIC - which mission field are you drawn to?
- **Support the mission of St Vincent de Paul** by bringing items to their drive next weekend 5/16-5/17 at SJV

### INSPIRE

- **Share your testimony** with someone this week.
- **Be INSPIRED and learn about a new ministry.**
- **Share about a ministry** you are involved in with someone new this week.

## INTERCESSIONS FOR THE GROUP

Take some time to pray together for the persons or people on the Hearts of your small group members.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus,  
Thank You for the hope You have planted in our hearts.  
Help us to be ready to share that hope with others  
through our words and our lives.  
Give us courage to speak about You  
and love that reflects You in all we do.  
Guide us as we go from here  
to be witnesses of Your goodness in our everyday lives.  
We trust in You.  
Amen.