



BALANCING **FAITH & WORK** PROGRAM
RENEW INTERNATIONAL



CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES

TO: IBC AND MICAH PARTICIPANTS

**SUBJECT: LENTEN REFLECTIONS: THE FUTURE OF CATHOLIC
HIGHER EDUCATION; DEVELOPING AN ETHICAL CORPORATE
CULTURE AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM BASKETBALL**

DATE: MARCH 2022

March 2022 Meeting

- **Welcome and Self-Introductions**
- **Ignatian Business Chapters Mission Statement**
 - The mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives:
 - integrate faith, family, and professional life
 - develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values
 - exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large
 - The chapters, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcome believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious tradition. They are committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 8:1-9

Critique of Sages on the Wise Man and the King

Who is like the wise man? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? Wisdom makes one's face shine, and the hardness of one's countenance is changed. Keep the king's command because of your sacred oath. Do not be terrified; go from his presence, do not delay when the matter is unpleasant, for he does whatever he pleases. For the word of the king is powerful, and who can say to him, "What are you doing?" Whoever obeys a command will meet no harm, and the wise mind will know the time and way. For every matter has its time and way, although the troubles of mortals lie heavy upon them. Indeed, they do not know what is to be, for who can tell them how it will be? No one has power over the wind to restrain the wind, or power over the day of death; there is no discharge from the battle, nor does wickedness deliver those who practice it. All this I observed, applying my mind to all that is done under the sun, while one person exercises authority over another to the other's hurt.

Quiet Reflection: Five minutes followed by sharing insights

Article 1: [5 Research-Backed Strategies for Building an Ethical Culture](#)

Article 2: [Worried about the future of Catholic higher education?](#)

Article 3: [Catholic youth basketball taught me beautiful \(and painful\) lessons about fatherhood](#)

Be Attentive: Which of these three very different articles was most evocative for you? Why?

Be Intelligent: Which of these articles provoked your interest for application? And where would you like to take the group's reflection?

Be Reasonable: What were the key points for you in the ethics article? For your organization? What insights did you garner from the coaching article, since coaching has become a business? And last, did the education article give you hope for Catholic and Jesuit education?

Be Responsible: What were key insights that surfaced in today's discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community, and at home? Leverage the conversation for good!

Prayer for the Ignatian Year

Loving God, we come before you, asking for your special grace as we go through the year dedicated to the memory of the conversion of St. Ignatius. We remember the battle of Pamplona, the bravery of Ignatius, his recklessness, his ability to relate to his comrades. We remember his wounds, his broken dreams; his apparent failure; the vulnerability of his health; his return to Loyola and the long days of soul searching to try to find his way in life, finally surrendering his life to you as he listened to your voice speaking to him through his reading, his dreams, his prayers and his imagination. We remember his journey to Manresa; his inner struggles; his desire to reach out to others, helping souls to discover the consolation of your risen Son.

We ask, Lord, that you renew, also today, Ignatius' spirit in us. May we grow closer to his total trust in the Holy Spirit, following him faithfully, neither running ahead nor falling behind. May we make our own his ability to discern, his courage, his vulnerability, his search for companionship; his openness to young people, and his desire to share with them his wisdom. May we learn from his fearlessness in going forward, even if it meant, sometimes, making mistakes.

Grant, Lord, that we maybe on fire with the apostolic zeal and full of love for this beautiful but broken world. Help us, Lord, to set aside our narrow views, our preconceptions of ourselves, of each other, of our world and to see everything with new eyes. Help us to live ever more deeply the Ignatian charism of seeing all things new in Christ, of seeing your grace at work, even in darkness and suffering.

May this Ignatian Year help us to know Jesus, poor and humble, to love him more dearly and follow him more closely. We ask the intercession of Our Lady of the Way. May she help us journey with your Son, Jesus, putting our hand in his, stepping out, every day, into the world with a sense of adventure, of love and hope. Amen

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

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