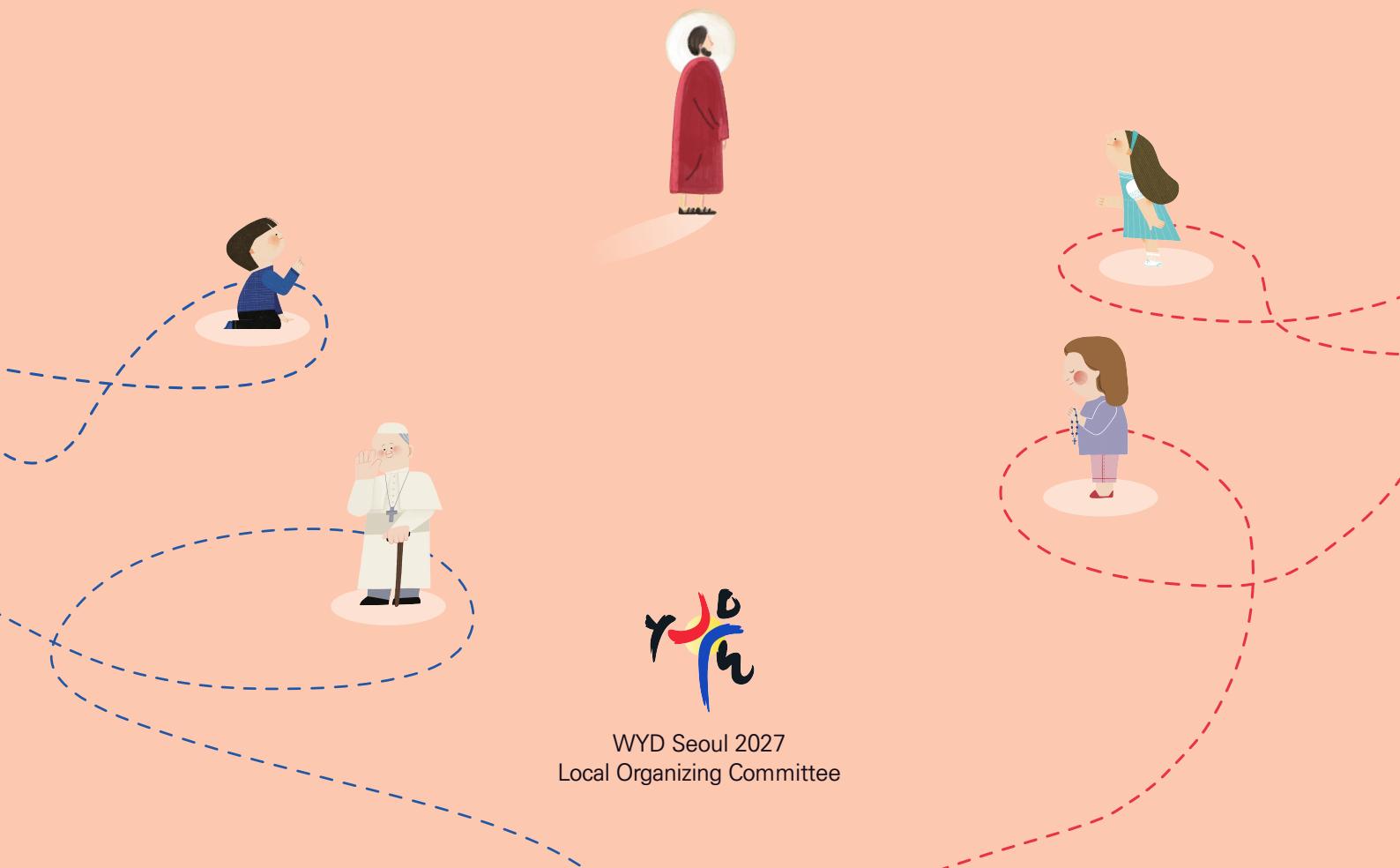


Workbook

CHRIST IS ALIVE

CHRISTUS
VIVIT



WYD Seoul 2027
Local Organizing Committee

On the Road: Me, You, and the Lord

There are certain questions we ought to ask. We should not start with wondering where we could make more money, or achieve greater recognition and social status. Nor even by asking what kind of work would be most pleasing to us. If we are not to go astray, we need a different starting point.

We need to ask: Do I know myself, quite apart from my illusions and emotions? Do I know what brings joy or sorrow to my heart? What are my strengths and weaknesses? These questions immediately give rise to others: How can I serve people better and prove most helpful to our world and to the Church? What is my real place in this world? What can I offer to society?

Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit*, 285





Let's Read

Carefully read the passage, stopping and reflecting if any phrase touches your heart. Write down your thoughts on the passage below.

In thinking of my own youth, I realize that stability and security are not the questions that most occupy the minds of young people. True enough, it is important to have a job and thus to have firm ground beneath our feet, yet the years of our youth are also a time when we are seeking to get the most out of life. When I think back on that time, I remember above all that we were not willing to settle for a conventional middle-class life. We wanted something great, something new. We wanted to discover life itself, in all its grandeur and beauty. [...]

So we wanted to break out into the open, to experience the whole range of human possibilities. I think that, to some extent, this urge to break out of the ordinary is present in every generation. Part of being young is desiring something beyond everyday life and a secure job, a yearning for something really truly greater. [...]

Saint Augustine was right when he said “our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you.” The desire for a more meaningful life is a sign that God created us and that we bear his “imprint”. God is life, and that is why every creature reaches out towards life. Because human beings are made in the image of God, we do this in a unique and special way. We reach out for love, joy and peace. So we can see how absurd it is to think that we can truly live by removing God from the picture! [...]

In some parts of the world, particularly in the West, today’s culture tends to exclude God, and to consider faith a purely private issue with no relevance for the life of society. Even though the set of values underpinning society comes from the Gospel – values like the sense of the dignity of the person, of solidarity, of work and of the family –, we see a certain “eclipse of God” taking place, a kind of amnesia which, albeit not an outright rejection of Christianity, is nonetheless a denial of the treasure of our faith, a denial that could lead to the loss of our deepest identity.

For this reason, dear friends, I encourage you to strengthen your faith in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are the future of society and of the Church! As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians of Colossae, it is vital to have roots, a solid foundation!

This is particularly true today. Many people have no stable points of reference on which to build their lives, and so they end up deeply insecure. There is a growing mentality of relativism, which holds that everything is equally valid, that truth and absolute points of reference do not exist. But this way of thinking does not lead to true freedom, but rather to instability, confusion and blind conformity to the fads of the moment. As young people, you are entitled to receive from previous generations solid points of reference to help you to make choices and on which to build your lives: like a young plant which needs solid support until it can sink deep roots and become a sturdy tree capable of bearing fruit.

Pope Benedict XVI, Message of His Holiness for the 26th World Youth Day (2011)





Let's Reflect



Opening Prayer

Pray the “Prayer for the Synod” together.

Share and Listen

Choose a topic from “Let’s Reflect” to share. Each person should share their reflections based on their faith and life experiences for three to five minutes. The other participants should listen with an open mind.

Listen to the Holy Spirit I

Take three minutes of silence to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the group through the stories that have been shared. Refrain from any distractions, such as flipping through the book or taking notes, and focus entirely on the Holy Spirit.

Open Your Heart

Take three to five minutes each to share the insights that resonated most deeply, how you felt God’s presence and action, and what continues to echo in your hearts.

Listen to the Holy Spirit II

Take three minutes of silence to reflect on where the Holy Spirit is leading the group through today’s session.

Move Forward Together

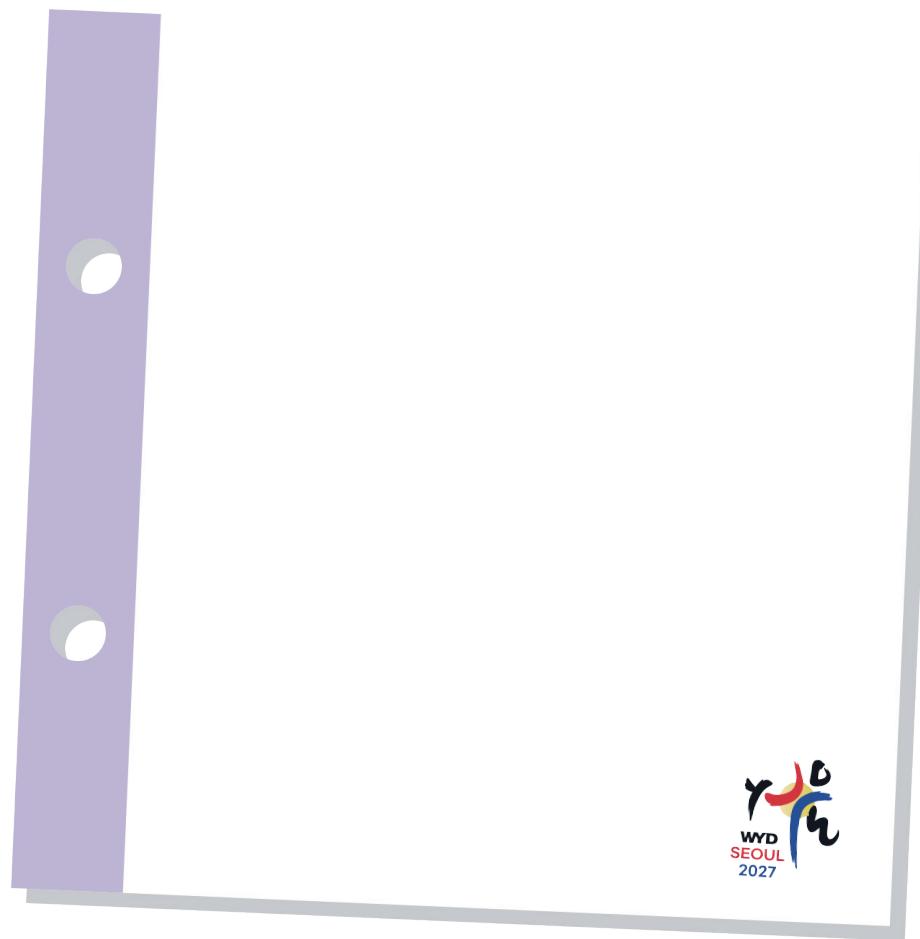
Discuss what important Gospel values the group has discovered through today’s listening and prayer. How can we live them out? What concrete efforts should we, as individuals or as a group, make to practice these values in our daily lives?





Let's Take Action

On a single sheet of paper, draw each person's life goal to create a unified world. Take a picture of the drawing and upload the photo to your social media with the hashtag **@wydseoul2027**.



Unity in the Eucharist

If possible, conclude the session by celebrating Mass together to affirm our unity in the Eucharist. If attending Mass is not an option, spend time in silent prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament and pray together with the “Prayer for the Youth”, the official prayer for the preparation for WYD Seoul 2027. If this is also difficult, conclude the gathering by reciting the following “Prayer of Unity in the Eucharist”.



Prayer of Unity in the Eucharist

O Lord Jesus Christ, truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament, though we cannot now receive You sacramentally, we fervently pray to welcome You into our hearts. Together with the Immaculate and Holy Heart of Mary, come at least spiritually into our hearts, and grant us the grace to be united as one in You. We are members of Your Body; Let us never forget that we are one in You. May we always be instruments of Your glory, revealing Your presence to the world. All this we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.



One Step Further

What, then, will become of us after death? With Jesus, beyond this threshold we will find eternal life, consisting in full communion with God as we forever contemplate and share in his infinite love. All that we now experience in hope, we shall then see in reality. We are reminded of the words of Saint Augustine: "When I am one with you in all my being, there will be no more pain and toil; my life shall be true life, a life wholly filled by you". What will characterize this fullness of communion? Being happy. "Happiness" is our human vocation, a goal to which all aspire.

But what is happiness? What is the happiness that we await and desire? Not some fleeting pleasure, a momentary satisfaction that, once experienced, keeps us longing for more, in a desperate quest that leaves our hearts unsated and increasingly empty. We aspire to a happiness that is definitively found in the one thing that can bring us fulfillment, which is love.

Pope Francis, *Spes Non Confundit*, 21