

# On Mission

July 2024

A NEWSLETTER FOR FOCUS SUPPORTERS



Summer Formation, 2024

## HOW YOUR CARE FORMS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

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HUMAN FORMATION

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

APOSTOLIC FORMATION

**Peek Inside!**

### YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN FORMATION THIS SUMMER!

We know your faith is important to you. This summer, see how you can grow with us through some of our missionary resources.

#### SEEK25

Register today for SEEK25 in Salt Lake City!



BROUGHT TO YOU BY

# Your thoughtful care forms Christ like leaders.



## See how you can walk with us in formation.

Have you ever felt drawn to someone who seems so at peace that they exude joy? Have you experienced someone being drawn to you because of your confidence in your identity?

This summer, your generosity provides world-class formation for our missionaries to learn about Christ and grow in such intimacy with Him that He is their peace, source of identity and freedom. As they form friendships with mentors who lead them to an intimate relationship with Jesus, they become missionary disciples who teach others to teach (2 Tim 2:2). Like you, they can go

out with an attractive holiness that draws souls to Jesus Christ and His Church.

Modeled after Pope St. John Paul II's apostolic exhortation on the formation of priests and the USCCB's guidelines for developing lay people in ministry, FOCUS' Summer Formation covers four areas of development: Human, Spiritual, Intellectual and Apostolic.

You are invited to join our missionaries this summer to more deeply conform your heart, mind, body and soul to Christ through these resources.



## Human Formation

You know that many of Jesus’ apostles were familiar with a particular type of “catching.” He flipped the paradigm when He invited these fishermen to become “fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19). To “catch” men, they were first to “catch” the virtues of Christ through friendship with Him. The more time they spent with Christ, the more like Him they became — growing into the saints they were called to be.

FOCUS’ human formation prompts missionaries to seek to take on the character and virtues of Christ — first by learning the concepts and then putting them into practice. This happens primarily in the small groups in which they live in community and regularly discuss key concepts learned in the classroom.

Consider using these tools to learn the virtues of Christ and practicing them with your loved ones!

### **First-year Topics: Virtue and freedom, prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude.**

*The Art of Living:* Dr. Edward Sri

[Fellowship: Virtuous Friendships Discipleship Article](#)

[Pursuing Christlike Character Discipleship Article](#)

### **Second-year Topics: The human person and vocational discernment.**

[Living out Theology of the Body](#)

[Theology of the Body Bible Study](#)

### **All Staff Topics: Moral authority, chastity, sobriety, and excellence, media and mental health.**

NST Spotify playlists: [Upbeat & Calm](#)

[Moral Authority and Chastity, Sobriety and Excellence Discipleship Article](#)

“He was praying in a certain place, and when He ceased, one of His disciples said to Him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’” (Luke 11:1)

## Spiritual Formation

When was the first time you learned how to pray? How has prayer helped you to know God more personally — and as a result, grow in peace and freedom?

This week of training is set aside for missionaries to grow in intimacy with God. Both first- and second years spend time on retreat, where they are invited to grow in relationship with each Person of the Holy Trinity. You are welcome to join us in going deeper with these same formative topics!



**First-year Topics: How to pray a holy hour, principles of prayer, *Lectio Divina*, Ignatian contemplation, the Mass, sacraments and grace.**

- [The Hour That Will Change Your Life](#)
- [Seven Life-Changing Tips for Prayer](#)
- [Prayer: Spiritual Breathing Discipleship Article](#)

**Second-year Topics: The second conversion, discernment of spirits, meditations on the Trinity and incarnation.**

- *Discernment of Spirits: An Ignatian Guide to Everyday Living*, Fr. Timothy Gallagher
- *Conversion: Spiritual Insights into an Essential Encounter with God*, Fr. Donald Haggerty

**All Staff Topics: Three-day retreat and half day of recollection.**

- Consider finding a local retreat in your area or taking a personal retreat with the guidance of a spiritual director



# Intellectual Formation

As you draw closer to Christ, have you experienced the joy of realizing you have a unique part in God's story of salvation?

Thanks to the richness of our Church and holy Scripture, we can immerse our minds in the true story of Salvation History. Free from the lies of worldly false narratives, we can more clearly understand our identity and mission.


You are welcome to join us in seeking the truth in Christ with these Bible study and discipleship resources.

## All Staff Topics: Catholic Worldview and Catholic teaching on gender and sexuality.

- [The Apostles' Teaching: The Battle for Your Mind Discipleship Article](#)
- [Same-Sex Attraction and Finding Purpose, Fr. Philip Bochanski](#)
- [Male, Female, Other? Jason Evert](#)



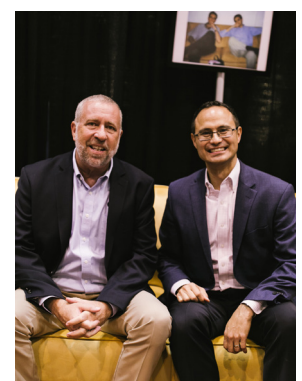
CREATION • THE FALL • NOAH • ABRAHAM • ISAAC, JACOB & JOSEPH • EXODUS • AT MOUNT SINAI



# Lenten BIBLE STUDY Recap

Curtis Martin, founder and CEO of FOCUS, and Dr. Edward Sri, Sr. VP of Apostolic Outreach, recently finished their 12-part series on God's plan of salvation. Now, you can access each video session for free at [focusequip.org](http://focusequip.org).

DESERT WANDERINGS • JOSHUA & JUDGES • RISE OF THE KINGDOM • FALL OF THE KINGDOM • PROPHECY & JESUS





## Apostolic Formation

Have you ever felt the fluttering of excitement at recognizing your loved ones — and eventually the entire world — could also experience the same transformative relationship with Christ that you have?

In this phase of training, missionaries learn what it means to be apostolic — which is to live as the Apostles did in response to Jesus’ Great Commission to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19).

Disciples of Christ like you, and our missionaries, have many resources at your fingertips to learn how to “win” someone in authentic friendship and invite them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. As those you mentor grow in zeal, you can teach them to share Christ



with their friends — so that together, we can reach the world with the Gospel.

Here are some ways you can learn how to lead others in being a disciple of Christ.

**All Staff Topics: Vision for Win, Build, Send, Magisterial teaching on evangelization and discipleship, winning others for Christ and Bible studies.**

- [Discipleship Articles for Win, Build, Send](#)
- [Soul of the Apostolate](#), Jean-Baptiste Chautard
- [Bible Studies](#)

SEEK

# Follow Me

Join us at SEEK25

**Salt Lake City**  
**Jan 1–5, 2025**

## Accommodations

- Located at the Salt Palace Convention Center.
- Starting this fall, housing blocks will be available at the Hyatt Regency and Marriott.
- Elevate your conference experience by adding Premier Hospitality to your registration.
- Event pass with Premier Hospitality: \$1,500
- Prices increase October 30, 2024.



### Dynamic Speakers

That will inspire you to live out Christ's call.



### Mass & Prayer

Built into your schedule.



### Nightly Entertainment

Reception, concerts and more!

## Register Today!



**Space is limited.**

Deadline to register:

**Wednesday,**

**December 4, 2024**

[seek.focus.org](https://seek.focus.org)