THE GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED, GIVE AS GIFT

Opening Song:

(An appropriate song may be sung or played from a tape.)

Reader:

Take some time now to reflect on how you are a gift to others, how you are called to share in the ministry of Jesus by using your gifts to love others.

Reader 1:

"Now once he was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray...' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray: Father, may your name he held holy, let your kingdom come,"" **Response: Jesus, person of prayer**

Reader2:

"Then Jesus took the apostles with him and withdrew to a town called Bethsaida where they could be by themselves. But the crowds got to know this, and they went after him. He made them welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing."

Response: Jesus, the healer

Reader 3:

"Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved."

Response: Jesus, the equal opportunity employer

Reader 4:

"Now after this Jesus made his way through towns and villages preaching, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. With him went 12 apostles and certain women who had been cured of evil spirits and aliments." **Response: Jesus, minister to women**

Reader 5:

"Peace I give to You, my own peace I give to you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you."

Response: Jesus, the peacemaker

Reader 6:

"I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though they die they will live, and whoever lives and believe in me will never die. Do you believe this?" **Response: Jesus, the life-giver**

Reader 7:

"Has no one condemned you?" 'No one, sir,' she said. 'Neither do I condemn you,' Jesus replied."

Response: Jesus, the forgiver

Scripture Reading:

Ephesians 5:8 14a, 15-20

Shared Homily or Individual Reflection

Especially emphasizing the words, "Try to discover what the Lord wants of you."

[Response]

The Bible is placed in the center of the room, and each student is provided with a pencil and an index card. Invite the students to close their eyes and to reflect also on their unique personality, gifts, talents, capabilities, likes and dislikes in order to discover the best way for each of them to continue Jesus' ministry in the world.

The Leader may help this process by reflecting aloud for the students in the following way:

Christ Said:

I send you into the world... I send you to pray... I send you to free... I send you to love... I send you to challenge... I send you to befriend... I send you to reconcile... I send you to heal... I send you to teach...

The leader invites the students to write on a card the words that indicates how they can serve the Lord, then calls them individually and invites them to place the card in a basket near the Bible with these words:

Jesus calls you [Name] to follow him, and he sends you into the world to continue his ministry. How will you respond?

Concluding Song:

(Any appropriate song may be sung or taken from a tape.)