

### Discernment



#### *Opening Prayer*

*All provident God, I put all my thoughts and impulses, my biases and viewpoints, my action and waiting, my plans and confusion into your hands. Lead me in your way.*

Often we think that discernment is a choice between something good and something that is bad. Certainly that can be the case; when we discover through reflection that a course of action would lead us away from the love of God or break or strain our relationship with our loved ones. However, in order to follow God's will in our life we often need to choose carefully between two courses of action that seem good.

#### **The Words of Vincent**

“A sure way for a Christian to grow rapidly in holiness is a conscientious effort to carry out God's will in all circumstances.....This means that we should not have a disproportionate liking for any ministry, person or place, or anything of that sort. We should be ready and willing to leave all of these gladly.” Again Vincent prays, “So let us ask Our Lord that everything might be done according to his providence, that our wills be submitted to him in such a way that between Him and us there might be only one will, which will enable us to enjoy His unique love in time and through all eternity.” (Constitution of the CM's p108)

#### **The Words of Scripture**

Jeremiah 28:11

I know the plans I have in mind for you, plans for peace not disaster, to give you a future full of hope.

## AIC Reflection

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### Reflection

- ❖ What decisions have you made in the past couple of days?
- ❖ Did you stop and ask God to direct you in these moments?  
(it does not matter if the decisions were small ones)
- ❖ Thinking back, was there an alternative course of action that would have been more loving?
- ❖ What positive steps can you take to help you to include God in all your decision making in the future?
- ❖ How can you, as an AIC group, be more discerning about the service you provide?



### *Concluding Prayer*

*Loving God, we praise and thank you that you continue to care for us, even when we have turned away from you, or made poor choices. Help us to rely more on your guidance so that "between You and us there might be only one will."*