

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA PARISH

- Catholic Book Discussion: *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything* by Father James Martin, SJ
- January 14, 2016

DISCUSSION OUTLINE

1. Father Martin writes: "So tying it all together, you could say this: *Contemplatives in action* seek to *find God in all things*, by looking at the world in an *incarnational* way, and, in their quest, they realize their desire for *freedom and detachment*, which helps them move even closer to God. That's probably a fair summary of Ignatian spirituality." (page 392)

What is your understanding of each of these four "pillars" of the spirituality of Saint Ignatius:

- Contemplatives in Action:
- Finding God in all things:
- an Incarnational Awareness:
- Desire for Freedom and Detachment:

2. Of the four "pillars" mentioned by Father Martin throughout the book, which is the MOST significant for you on your personal spiritual journey? How have you tried to incorporate this "pillar" into your spiritual journey?
3. Father Martin insists that "the Goal is God". (page 393) How do these "pillars" of Ignatian Spirituality help us "reach God"?
4. What does the phrase, "the more you experience God, the more you will want to experience God more", (page 392) mean to you? Does it have any relevance to your own spiritual journey?

5. "If we allow it to happen, God can work that way in all our lives." (page 393) Why does Father Martin insist that we "allow" it to happen? What is the "it" he refers to?

6. "But no one in this lifetime, reaches the end of the journey...on this earth we will always be pilgrims along the way." (page 394) Are these words of Father Martin a source of hope to you? In what ways?

7. What do the words "the road is our home" (page 394) mean to you? How do they apply to your personal spiritual journey?

8. Anything else that struck you, challenged you, helped you, confused you that you wish to share with the group...

AMDG