

What is JustFaith?

JustFaith is a conversion-based process that provides a context in which participants can grow in their commitment to care for the vulnerable and become advocates for justice. During this extended justice education process groups meet weekly employing books, videos, guest speakers, discussion, prayer, retreats and hands-on experiences. Participants also form a community with other participants and share a journey of faith and compassion that is both life-giving and challenging.

What organizations are affiliated with JustFaith?

JustFaith Ministries works in partnership with Bread for the World, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Services, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, and Pax Christi (USA), with additional support from Catholic Charities USA.

Do participants need to have previous social justice experience or knowledge?

People benefit from JustFaith whether they have been involved in social ministry for a long time or they are newly interested. Testimonies from around the country attest to the fact that both experienced and inexperienced participants have derived great benefit.

What is the cost of the books used in JustFaith?

The approximate cost of the 10–12 books used each year is \$115–130 per person. These books (and the videos) can all be ordered from one source. Typically, book costs are paid by the individual participants, though a small number of churches have elected to subsidize some or all of the cost of the books.

Is JustFaith facilitation best done by one or more facilitators?

The facilitation of JustFaith can be done by two co-facilitators. The team approach allows for access to varied facilitation strengths, encourages the exercise of leadership skills by more than one person, and allows the sharing of tasks. However, many individual facilitators have been very successful in coordinating the JustFaith program on his/her own.

Who is qualified to be a co-facilitator?

Potential facilitators do not need to have theological training or vast social ministry experience and are not asked to be the teacher. The books, videos and guest speakers are the teachers. The facilitator needs to be: 1) someone who is really interested in social ministry and justice, and 2) a person who is mature, responsible and able to oversee a conversation amongst a group of people.

How often should the group meet?

JustFaith needs to meet weekly. The goals of JustFaith cannot be accomplished by meeting every other week. Some groups have found that they can skip one week a month, but it strongly recommended not to meet less frequently than three times each month.

Testimonials**Dan Divis, Pastor**

I would call it the new Pentecost. This is what it is. This is what has happened in the lives of so many people and I have a list of things that people have done and what has happened ... But, the reality is, it is these (JustFaith) people who are willing to come together, question the questions, and look at the issues, make some changes, and challenge things. It is a Pentecost, it's a new life, it's energy. It has changed the parish, it has changed me.

Pat Bowles, Participant

JustFaith was an avenue by which I could discover who I am/not, explore simplicity, define a life purpose, develop a social consciousness, experience compassion, build community, and rediscover prayer. As the weeks went by I discovered that my social conscience and inner spirit were being pulled in a direction that was radically different. I became a part of a much wider world of influence on which to challenge the status quo, the underlying principles of injustice, or a peaceful response to violence or the death penalty. JustFaith was a life-

changing course of study, a course envisioned by the Creator. JustFaith awakened the Spirit within me and opened my mind and heart.

Chris Bowles, Participant

JustFaith was a process that radically challenged the paradigms with which I had been living. As a result of the experience, I see with different eyes. I have a new understanding of the way social justice issues are interrelated, and a greater appreciation for the statement, "as long as one suffers, all suffer." It has been 13 years since my JustFaith experience and I still concern myself with living a life immersed in behaviors and choices that reflect my baptismal call to be an advocate for social justice ... JustFaith was the initial vehicle that enlightened my ministry.