

Dying to Live

Session Outline

2 ½ hour session

**To be used with materials from the *Justice for Immigrants Campaign of the USCCB*
Produced by the Diocese of San Bernardino**

Introductions	5
Opening Prayer	5
Handout 1: <i>Catholic Social Teaching and Migration</i> Give brief explanation of CST:	10
Handout 2: Pre Session Questionnaire (page 3 below)	5
Show Chapter 1 & 2: Discussion of questions for 1& 2 (page 4 below)	25
Show Chapter 3: Discussion of questions for 3	15
BREAK	10
Show chapter 4 & 5: Discussion of questions for 4&5	50
Hand out <i>Learn the Issues</i> and <i>Response to Undocumented Immigration: The Arguments</i> Ask people to re-examine their pre session questionnaire Discuss	20
Closing Prayer	5
Total Time	150

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Session Outline

4 sessions each 60 minutes or less

Session 1

Introductions	5
Opening Prayer	5
Handout 1: <i>Catholic Social Teaching and Migration</i> Give brief explanation of CST:	10
Handout 2: Pre Session Questionnaire (page 3 below)	5
Show Chapter 1 & 2: Discussion of questions for 1& 2 (page 4 below)	20
Closing Prayer	5

Session 2

Introductions	5
Opening Prayer	5
Show Chapter 3 – Discussion questions for 3	35
Closing Prayer	

Session 3

Introductions	5
Opening Prayer	5
Show Chapter 4 – Discussion questions for 3	35
Closing Prayer	5

Session 4

Introductions	2
Opening Prayer	3
Show Chapter 5 – Discussion questions for 3	30
Hand out <i>Learn the Issues</i> and <i>Response to Undocumented Immigration: The Arguments</i> Ask people to re-examine their pre session questionnaire Discuss	20
Closing Prayer	5

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Pre Session Questionnaire

True or False:

- ___ We need to seal the borders to win the war on terror.
- ___ Unauthorized immigrants do not pay taxes.
- ___ Most undocumented immigrants come to the US to go on welfare.
- ___ The U.S. is the only large country with a large number of undocumented immigrants.
- ___ The difficulty of coming to the US from Mexico legally drives unauthorized immigration
- ___ There are plenty of good jobs in Mexico that pay a living wage.
- ___ The largest number of undocumented immigrants come to the U.S. from Mexico. The second largest number comes from Ireland.
- ___ Undocumented immigrants send most of their money back to Mexico.
- ___ Most Latino children are undocumented.
- ___ Immigrants don't want to learn English or become U.S. citizens.
- ___ Most immigrants cross the border illegally.
- ___ Undocumented immigrants have no regard for US law.

Answer in a few words:

What bothers me most about undocumented immigration is:

Where do you get most of your information about immigration?

Why do you think the Catholic Church has launched the Justice for Immigrants Campaign?

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Questions for discussion

Chapter 1: *Introduction (untitled)*

1. In what way has your life been a journey?
2. What kind of a planet do you want to leave to future generations?
3. What do you think about the immigrant as a threat to your job, home or well being?
4. How is Christ present in the immigrant?

Chapter 2: *The Face of the Migrant*

1. Who are the immigrants? How do you feel when you see them looking for day labor?
2. Do you know any immigrants? Do you know if they are documented or not? What do you know about the process for becoming “legal” or entering the US legally?
3. Have you ever left something or some place that was dear to you?
4. Even though society may attempt to rob the undocumented immigrant of dignity, what does our faith say?

Chapter 3: *Push - Pull and Politics*

1. Has your feeling about immigrants changed since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001?
2. Do you think the border could be sealed?
3. Even though there are many undocumented immigrants in the US from Canada, why is no one talking about sealing that border?
4. What forces are pushing immigrants? What forces are pulling them?
5. What would happen to agriculture and the service industry in the United States without the labor of immigrants?
6. Do you see ways in which the common good might benefit from some kind of legalization of the undocumented work force?

Chapter 4: *The Journey*

1. Have you ever found yourself straddling fear and hope, not knowing how things would work out? Did you feel God’s presence with you in that situation?
2. Do you have mixed feelings about
 - The services offered or sold in Altar?
 - The Mexican government check points?
 - The coyotes?

Chapter 5: *The Border and Beyond*

1. How long will we be able to stop people from seeking life?
2. Have you experienced each person God puts in your path as a gift or blessing?
3. Do you agree or disagree that we are all one family?
4. What do you think about the Way of the Immigrant as being the Way of the Cross?