



## **CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES**

**TO: IBC AND MICAH PARTICIPANTS**

**SUBJECT: UPSTREAM THINKING**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 2020**

### **SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING**

- **Welcome and Self-Introductions**
- **Ignatian Business Chapters Mission Statement**
  - The Mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives:
    - To integrate faith, family, and professional life,
    - To develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values
    - To exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large.
  - The conference, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcomes believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious tradition. It is committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.
- **Scripture Reading Luke 10: 25-37 The Good Samaritan**

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed mercy on him.” And Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

- **Quiet reflection:** five minutes followed by sharing insights

**Article:** [Reducing Homelessness with Upstream Thinking | icma.org](https://www.icma.org/reducing-homelessness-with-upstream-thinking)

“So often in life, we get stuck in a cycle of response. We put out fires. We deal with emergencies. We stay downstream, handling one problem after another, but we never make our way up stream to fix the systems that caused the problems.”

**Be Attentive:** Being attentive is about noticing. What did you notice about the Mayor Larry Morrissey? What did you notice about homelessness and the homeless? What did you notice about the HUD seminar?

**Be Intelligent:** What changed? What caused the change? What did you notice about mindsets? What chronic problems are you wrestling with now? Where are you seeing blame, finger-pointing and inertia?

**Be Reasonable:** What did Rockford do? Name the changes. What insights does this case provide for you? What insights might inform your current dilemma?

**Be Responsible:** What were key insights that surfaced in today’s discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community, and at home? Leverage the conversation for good!

### **Closing Prayer: Jesuit Inspired**

Nothing is more practical than finding God,  
than falling in love in a quite absolute way.

What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination,  
will affect everything.

It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning,  
what you do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends,  
what you read, whom you know, what breaks your heart,  
and what amazes you with joy and gratitude.

Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.

Amen.

~ Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

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