

The SEARCH Course For Small Groups at Saint Bonaventure

FOR LENT 2021



The Search from FORMED is an innovative video-based journey that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from the fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

It's easy for group from a parish that subscribes to FORMED to be part of this exciting journey. The entire seven-part series is available to parishes and their parishioners for free at watch.formed.org/the-search-1. This could be utilized by individuals, members of one family, or especially within existing Saint Bonaventure parish groups. Such studies conducted in small groups help Catholics become proactive in their own faith formation as individuals and families.

Ready to get started? Here are some suggestions on how to launch *The Search* in your group.

1. Plan to address one of the seven sessions per week with your group. The topics are as follows, with each video of about 30 minutes.

Episode 1—What Do You Seek?

Episode 5—Who Is Jesus?

Episode 2—Who Are You?

Episode 6—Am I Saved?

Episode 3—Why a God?

Episode 7—Why a Church?

Episode 4—What's Our Story?

2. Plan how your group sessions will be formatted.
 - a. There is a Trailer on the FORMED.org website to promote The SEARCH within your group. watch.formed.org/the-search/videos/the-search-trailer
 - b. Pick a fixed day and time each week to meet. Start it as early as possible during Lent (with Ash Wednesday being Feb. 17th)
 - c. The group could watch the video together and then immediately discuss it, or if the people of your group are scattered, they could watch the video on their own ahead of time and then come together in an on-line session (Zoom, Google, Skype) to discuss the material.
3. Plan who will lead the discussions (typically about 30-45 minutes each).
 - a. Probably best to have 1 or 2 people leading the discussion each session.
 - b. Some typical discussion starter questions could be:
 - What touched you the most in the video, and why?
 - What's an example of this message you have witnessed in your life?
 - What area of your life are you prompted to change after hearing this segment?
 - c. End with prayer.