

Greetings!

My name is Kevin Prevou and I am the Director of Youth Ministry for the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth. The Disciple Now retreat that you signed up to attend on March 4-6, 2011 was developed by my office back in 2000 and is in its 11th year. The key purpose of the retreat is to help young people, like yourself, grow in the Christian leadership skills you already possess. I am very excited to tell you that we are planning for about 100 young people and a staff of people who will be leading the retreat and a few more serving food during the retreat. Michele Gilmore and Gabe Gutierrez will serve as this year's Retreat Directors - Michele is the Coordinator of Junior High Ministry at St. Mark parish in Denton and has served as the retreat director for the past 5 years. Gabe Gutierrez is the High School Youth Ministry Coordinator at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Keller and has served on the Disciple Now team for the past 5 years.

We will be at Camp Copass in denton TX for the Disciple Now retreat. Your parent(s) should have received a what to bring list (but I am enclosing a copy with this letter), release forms and a map to Camp Copass. Please plan to be at the Camp for check-in between 6:00pm and 6:30pm and not later than 7pm with all of your forms (if your parents haven't already turned them in). We will have a snack Friday evening but you should come having already eaten dinner or pick up something on the way to eat in our dining hall at the retreat center. If you are going to be later than 7pm please contact me at 817.560.3300 ext. 261 or toll-free (outside of Fort Worth) at 1.888.560.3370 ext. 261.

You can prepare for this retreat by saying the following prayer everyday until the retreat:

DISCIPLE NOW PRAYER

Jesus...I know that I am loveable and capable, created in your image. I believe that you have given me gifts to share with my family, my neighbors, my church and my community. I want to learn to use these gifts for others in the same way that my parents and others have used their gifts to care for me and to share their faith with me.

I believe that you can help me to learn to use my gifts through the upcoming Disciple Now retreat. Bless those who are preparing the retreat in your name and bless me with an open mind and heart as a participant in the Disciple Now retreat.

Amen!