

### **Partners on the Path**

Discipleship is all about simple steps, and when we've got partners on the path, the journey is less difficult. In a certain sense, just being around other people who are even trying to live the Christian life will make the effort easier. Authentic relationships grounded in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ is what small groups are about. And we're convinced it's the way forward for the whole Catholic church.

*The church of the future will be one built from below by basic communities as a result of free initiative and association. We should make every effort not to hold up this development, but to promote it and direct it on to the right lines. The Church will exist only by being constantly renewed by a free decision of faith. Karl Rahner*

While we work to shape a culture that promotes, assists, and supports all groups, it is ultimately the work of God.

Jesus taught. *If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the father; and he will give another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth.*  
John 14:15-17

The central doctrine of Christianity is the truth that in God there are three persons: Father, Son, and Spirit, one God, three distinct persons. This is a mystery to be held and celebrated, even though we cannot grasp its full meaning. But the mystery itself reveals something critically important about how God exists and operates: in intimate relationship - as community. The Trinity is a communion of persons and, as such, is the original small group. Ultimately, small-group life seeks to reflect the life of our God, who is one in three.

Taken from, *Rebuilt*, by Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran