

#TRUST

TO LOVE AND SERVE IN ALL THINGS

This school year we continue to advance in the **six-year cycle** (see below), as we develop some key themes of Ignatian spirituality. This year, we will focus on the **Principle and Foundation**:

	1	2	3	4	5	6
S. E. KEY	Call of the temporal king	Principle and Foundation	Contemplation of the Incarnation	Meditation on two Standards	True sentiment in the Church	Contemplation to gain Love
IGNATIAN KEY	Magis	To love and to serve in all things	A fire that kindles fires	To seek and find God in all things	Friends in the Lord	More in deeds than in words
MOTTO	IT'S FOR YOU	#TRUST	LOOK AGAIN	DECIDE TO DREAM	OUR HOME IS THE WORLD	ABOVE ALL, THANK YOU

Ignatius of Loyola wanted to provide a 'gateway' to his book on the Spiritual Exercises, and so he wrote the **Principle and Foundation** [SE 23]. A very special text that reminds us of three fundamental questions in our lives: **Who? What for? and How?**

The first question is at the level of the **BEING**, in our deep identity: **Who are you? Who is God?** Ignatius discovers himself as a creature, as a being created and loved out of pure love. A love that freely wants to create, and that creates a being that can freely respond to that love. To be and to feel like a loved creature, configured by a love that is tender and solid at the same time, that sustains, that envelops, that raises and that inspires. Relationships define us. We feel the Motherly bosom, the Fatherly arms, and we face the world from that identity and trust... discovering from our inner being that there is a dream, a **PURPOSE** in our lives...



This leads to the second question: **What for?** We are here neither by chance nor by serendipity. When someone dreamt and loved us, he did so relying on us. He dreamt us, created us, and entrusted us with his dream. We are here for something, we have a **PURPOSE** that we need to discover personally and that at the same time has a common thread for everyone, a particular style, which characterizes it, through love and service. Our being grows and is fulfilled through responding to love with love, giving back for free that which we received for **FREE**, with a tone of praise, not of belittling, or of contract, or of mere compliance. We have a **PURPOSE** in life.. Dare to discover yours. Dare to help others in their pursuit. Dare to act in service of the best cause. Dare to **LOVE AND SERVE IN ALL THINGS**.



Finally, the third question: **How? How can we BE more? How can we fulfill this dream, the PURPOSE of our life? The answer will always be by loving, but it needs to be more concrete.**

- By finding ourselves as loved creatures and finding others in the same way, without getting into a possessive attitude, blackmailing, dependence or abuse. We have to relate to one other with freedom, with maturity, appreciating every creature's dignity, and wishing to help others look for and find out their PURPOSE, their WHAT FOR.



- By discovering our own gifts and helping others discover theirs. By putting these at the service of others, placing them in the "box" of humble and servile love, not in that of self-benefit, fame or money. The latter "boxes" enclose us into bubbles that prevent us from progressing toward the greater PURPOSE we have been created for.

- By discovering that material things are means and not considering them as absolute and using these means to help us achieve our PURPOSE, and by knowing how to leave them or separate ourselves from them when they impede or hinder our progress. Taking special care of Creation as a place of encounter, of 'mediation'. We have to look after and imitate Nature, in which nothing lives on its own but everything offers itself up to support the rest of creation.

But where is TRUST in all of this? Why this motto: TRUST?

Because we consider that it is the key that is at the heart of all of the above: Do we trust in what we are, in what you are? Do you truly trust the ONE who created you and who trusts you more than you trust yourself? This defining relationship grows and becomes authentic through trusting. We are creatures born to trust and we grow when we let trust grow inside us. It is only from trust that we start to live our PURPOSE, our dream. Only a trusted creature puts itself at risk.

This is why our motto is TRUST, because it is not only a personal calling to grow in trust but to build a culture of trust (#TRUST) of which our World is in dire need. We need sincere personal relationships, based on neither suspicion nor image. We need sincere personal relationships, not based on suspicion or image. We need a word that inspires confidence in the face of rumor, fake news, or empty speeches. We need reliable, solid testimonies, in the face of mere facades or false profiles. We need projects that inspire trust, and that restore trust to those who entrust themselves to them, in the face of shortcuts to easy and comfortable lives.

We will only be true, we will only love and serve if there is TRUST.

Then, let's get ready to **#TRUST, to Love and Serve in all things.**

