



# YOUNG JOYFUL MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

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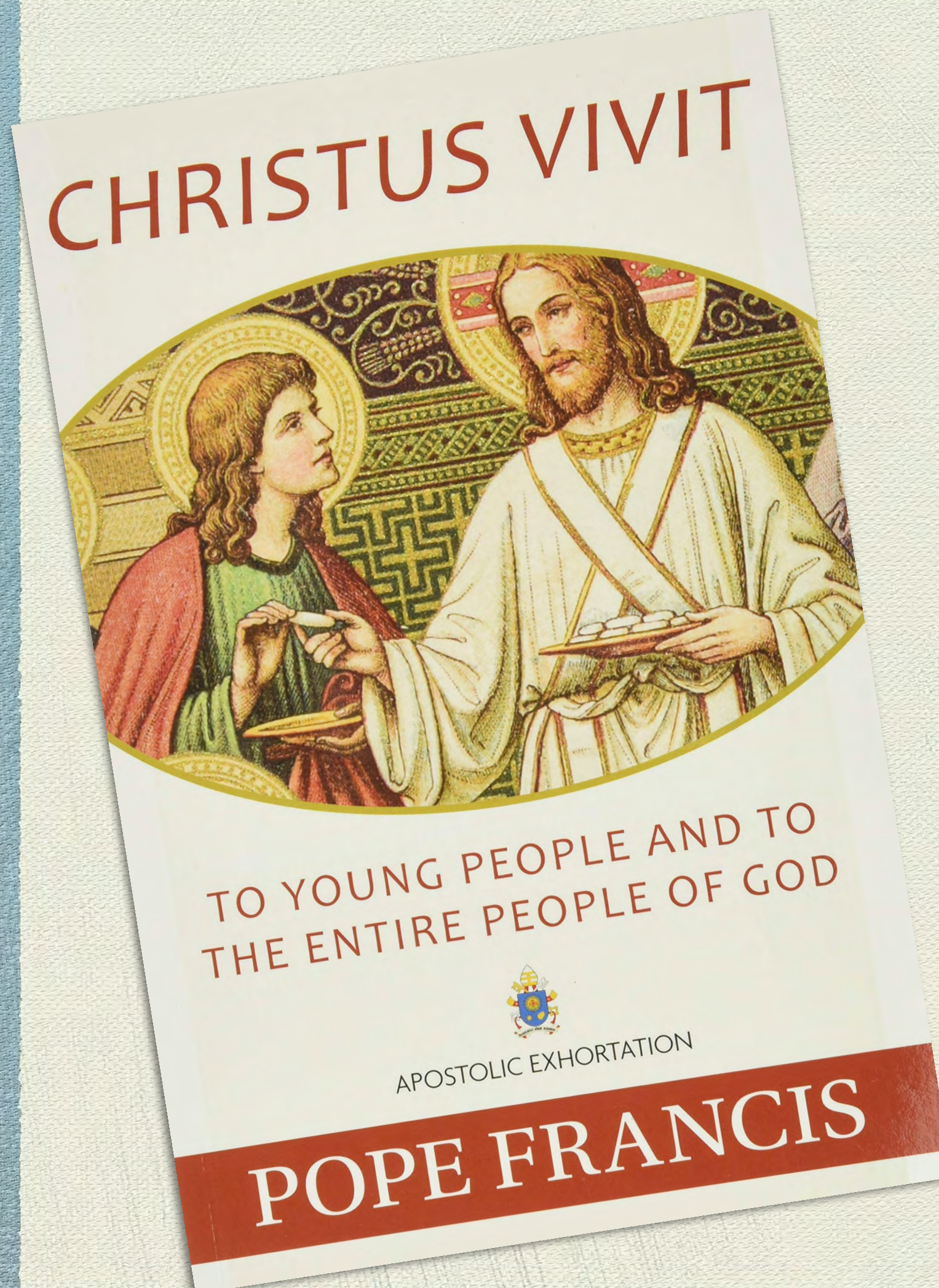


**Ministries  
With  
Youth and  
Young Adults**





# Three aspects of ministry with young



These aspects of Jesus' life can prove inspiring for all those young people who are developing and preparing to take up their mission in life. This involves **growing in a relationship with the Father, in awareness of being part of a family and a people, and in openness to being filled with the Holy Spirit and led to carry out the mission God gives them, their personal vocation (CV 30).**



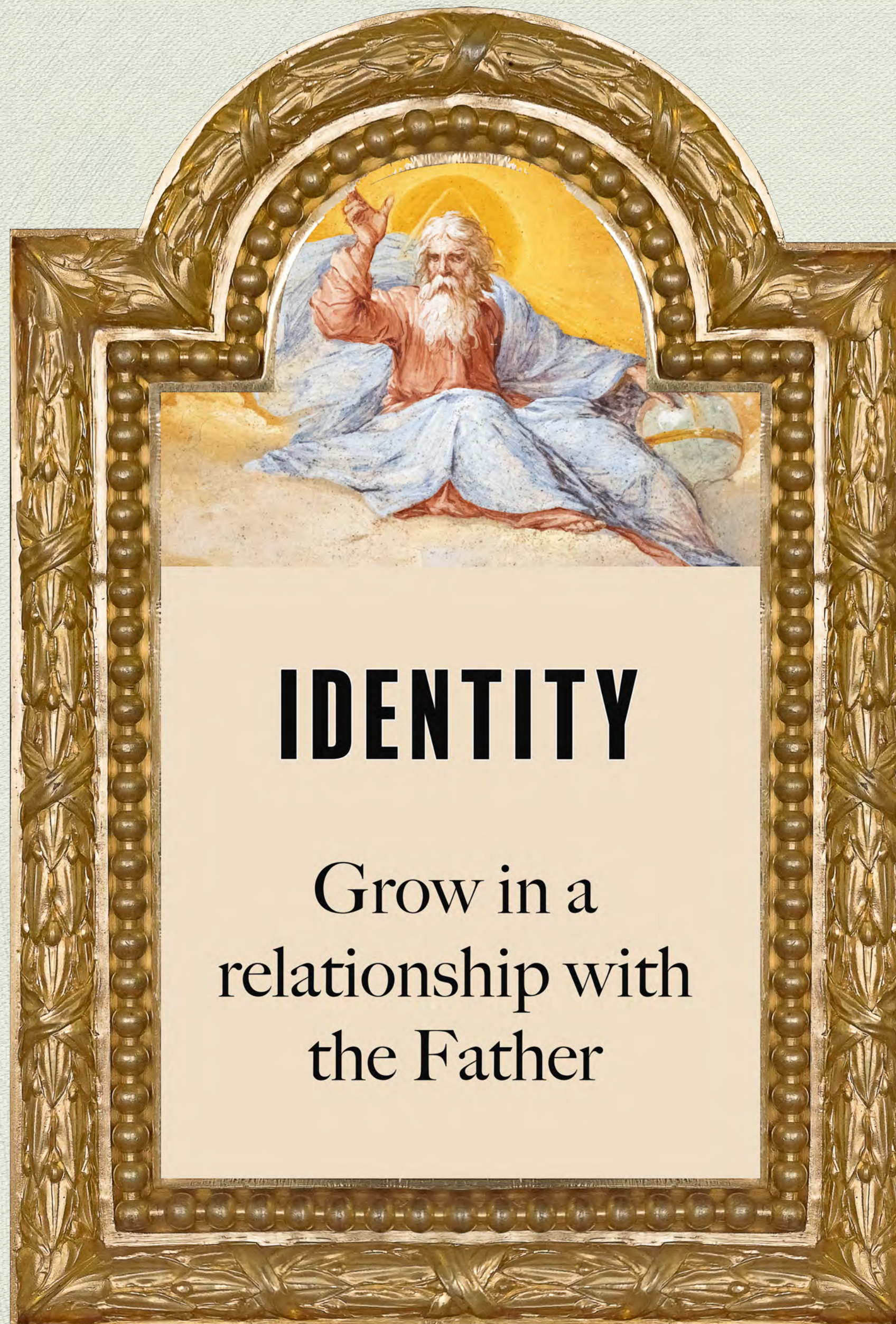


## IDENTITY

Grow in a  
relationship with  
the Father

In his adolescence and youth, Jesus' relationship with the Father was that of the beloved Son. Drawn to the Father, he grew up concerned for his affairs: "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?" (Lk 2:49). Still, it must not be thought that Jesus was a withdrawn adolescent or a self-absorbed youth. His relationships were those of a young person who shared fully in the life of his family and his people (CV 28).



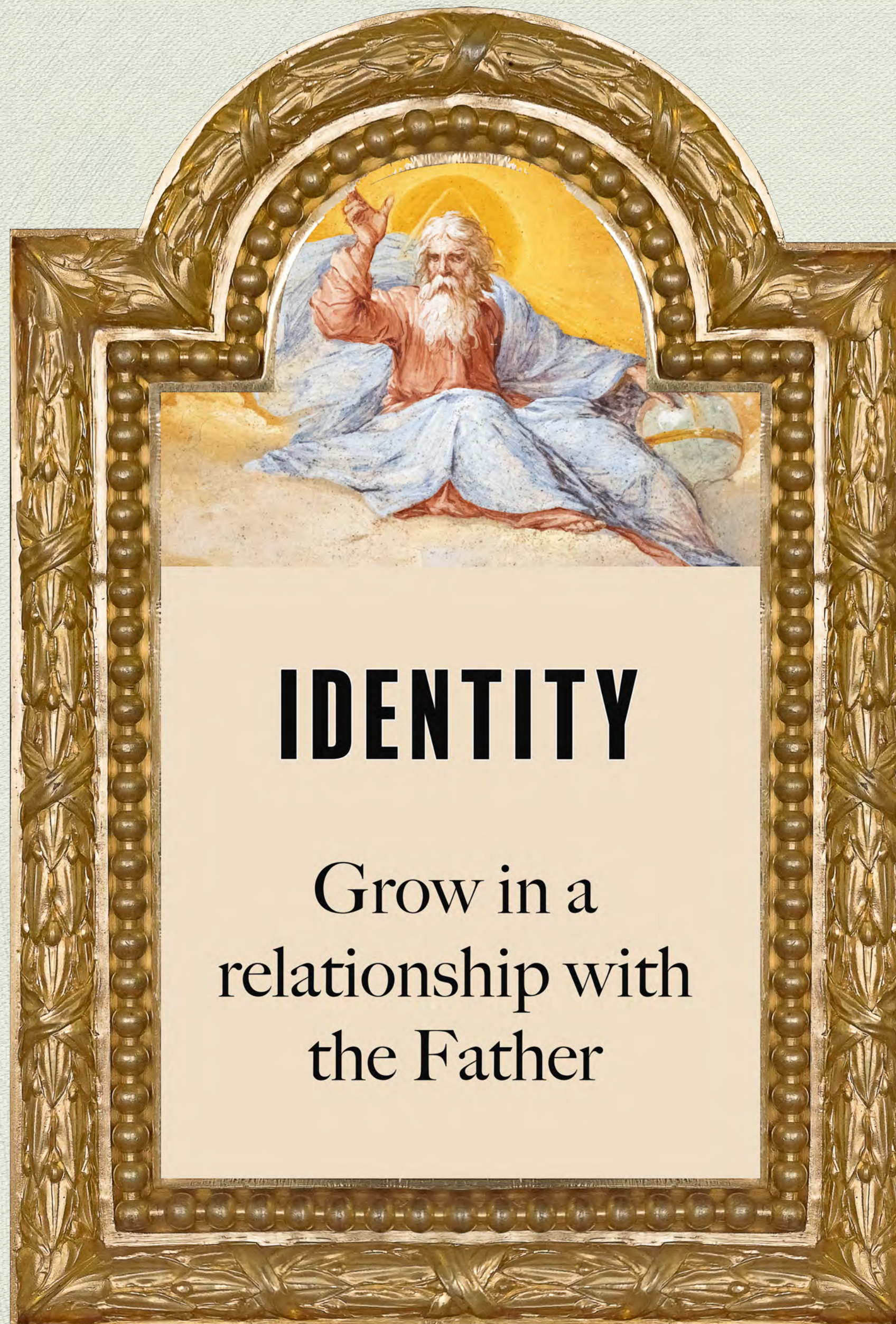


## IDENTITY

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At one point in the Gospel he is called “the carpenter’s son” (Mt 13:55) and another time simply “the carpenter” (Mk 6:3). This detail shows that he was just another young person of his town, who related normally to others. No one regarded him as unusual or set apart from others. For this very reason, once Jesus began to preach, people could not imagine where he got this wisdom: “Is this not Joseph’s son?” (Lk 4:22) (CV 28).





See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are (1 John 3:1).

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, “Abba, Father!” (Romans 8:14-15).

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:16-17).





## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Grow in awareness  
of being part of a  
family and a people

In fact, “Jesus did not grow up in a narrow and stifling relationship with Mary and Joseph, but readily interacted with the wider family, the relatives of his parents and their friends”.<sup>[8]</sup> Hence we can understand why, when he returned from his pilgrimage to Jerusalem, his parents readily thought that, as a twelve-year-old boy (cf. Lk 2:42), he was wandering freely among the crowd, even though they did not see him for an entire day: “supposing him to be in the group of travelers, they went a day’s journey” (Lk 2:44) (CV 29).





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Surely, they assumed, Jesus was there, mingling with the others, joking with other young people, listening to the adults tell stories and sharing the joys and sorrows of the group. Indeed, the Greek word that Luke uses to describe the group – *synodía* – clearly evokes a larger “community on a journey” of which the Holy Family is a part. Thanks to the trust of his parents, Jesus can move freely and learn to journey with others (CV 29).

None of this should be overlooked in pastoral work with young people, lest we create projects that isolate young people from their family and the larger community, or turn them into a select few, protected from all contamination (CV 30).





## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Grow in awareness  
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And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother" (Matthew 12:49-50).

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers... Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved (Acts 2:42, 46-47).





# VOCATION

Be filled with the  
Holy Spirit to carry  
out the mission

From what the Gospel tells us, we can say that Jesus, in the years of his youth, was “training”, being prepared to carry out the Father’s plan. His adolescence and his youth set him on the path to that sublime mission (CV 27).





# VOCATION

Be filled with the  
Holy Spirit to carry  
out the mission

Your own personal vocation does not consist only in the work you do... it is a path guiding your many efforts and actions towards service to others. So in discerning your vocation, it is important to determine if you see in yourself the abilities needed to perform that specific service to society. This gives greater value to everything you do. Your work stops being just about making money, keeping busy or pleasing others. It becomes your vocation because you are called to it... In the end, it is a recognition of why I was made, why I am here on earth, and what the Lord's plan is for my life (CV 255-56).





## VOCATION

Be filled with the  
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out the mission

Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing (John 15:4-5).

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).

“But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8).





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# FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

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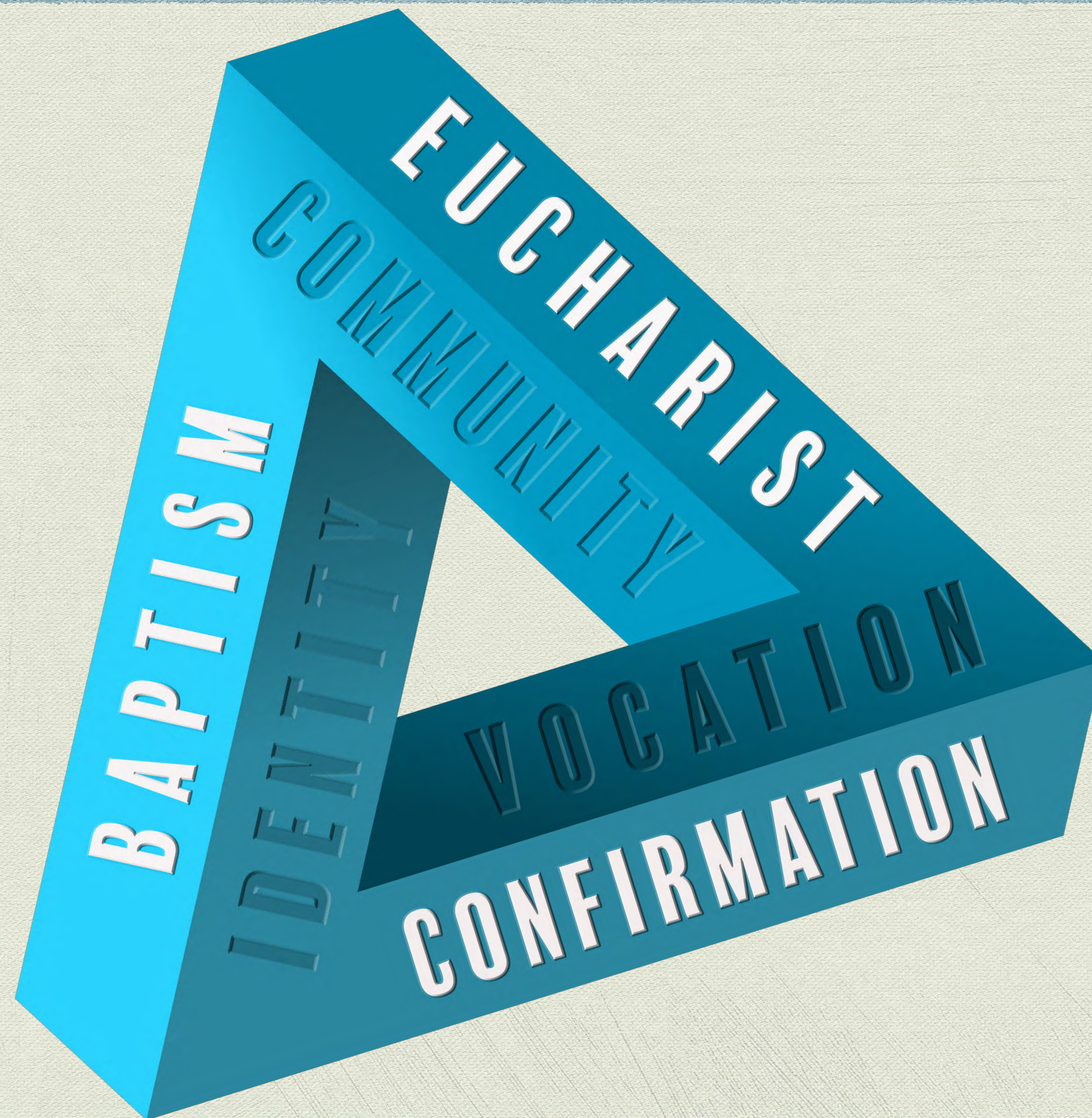


# VOCATION

Be filled with the  
Holy Spirit to carry  
out the mission











**“Behold, I make all things new.”**

Revelations 21:5





**“Behold, I make all things young.”**

Revelations 21:5





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