

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
SJ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
Semester \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Reading Study Guide—Social Justice

### *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Greg Boyle, S.J.

Your summer reading for the junior Social Justice course is Fr. Greg Boyle's *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* (Free Press, 2010, ISBN 1439153027). After reading the book, complete the following questions, which your theology teacher will use to make sure you read the book and to assess the quality of that reading.

“Our common human hospitality longs to find room for those who are left out. It’s just who we are if allowed to foster something different, something more greatly resembling what God had in mind. Perhaps, together, we can teach each other how to bear the beams of love, persons becoming persons, right before our eyes. Returned to ourselves.” (Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J.)

1. For each of the following chapters, complete the questions as if you were journaling your responses:

Chapter 1: “God, I Guess”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? How has this chapter influenced the way that you see God?

Chapter 2: “Dis-Grace”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? What did you learn about the feeling of shame among the marginalized?

Chapter 3: “Compassion”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? What is *compassion* really all about?

Chapter 4: “Water, Oil, Flame”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter?

Chapter 5: “Slow Work”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter?

Chapter 6: “Jurisdiction”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter?

Chapter 7: “Gladness”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? What does Fr. Boyle say about *gladness*?

Chapter 8: “Success”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? How is success defined according to Fr. Boyle?

Chapter 9: “Kinship”

- As you read through this chapter, write down at least one direct quotation that you find particularly important or interesting and explain why you chose that particular quotation.
- What is on your mind after reading this chapter? What is *kinship*?

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2. What couple of stories from Fr. Boyle’s experience struck you the most when reading? Why? Be specific...note page number reference.
  3. How has this book broken down your defenses when it comes to the poor / marginalized? Give examples/ be specific...note page number reference.
  4. What emotions, feelings are evoked from you after reading this book? How do you think this will help you prepare for our immersion experience? How does it inspire you?

Guidelines:

- Your answers must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font.
- You must use this sheet as your cover sheet.
- Remember that plagiarism, which includes copying any part of another person’s work and presenting it as your own, is dishonest and will result in no credit for this assignment.
- **DUE DATES:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER STUDENTS: This assignment will be turned in to your Social Justice teacher on the second class meeting of the semester.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> SEMESTER STUDENTS: This assignment must be placed in the box in the main office by Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.**