

# Weekly Online Class Discussions

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Peer-to-peer discussion is a valuable adult learning method of interacting with co-learners and course content. Reflecting on and responding to a discussion starter and to responses from others in a learning community provides opportunities to integrate the concepts presented in course materials and to practice catechetical leadership skills like listening, asking for clarity to understand, expressing learning in your own words, and testing out ideas or approaches.

**Expectation:** The intent of the asynchronous online discussions is for students to generate the back-and-forth dynamic of learning conversations using the comment function of the course platform. The expectation is students will post in response to the starter prompt and in at least one thread from another student in the cohort.

## Quick Guide

- Step 1.** Go to the course website from your library on [ncclcatholic.org](http://ncclcatholic.org) then click on the topic designated for the week, typically Topic 1 in weeks 1 & 2, Topic 2 in weeks 3 & 4, Topic 3 in weeks 5 & 6, and Topic 4 in weeks 7 & 8. *To keep things manageable, please only add new comments/replies to a discussion during the designated week.*
- Step 2.** Scroll to the bottom of the Topic window to find the discussion thread.
- Step 3.** Read the starter prompt posted by the course instructor or certificate coordinator.  
*Generally, new Starter Prompts will be added on Mondays.*
- Step 4.** Click “REPLY” to the starter prompt comment then type your response in the comment box. Be sure to click the “Post Comment” button to log your response on the website.
- Step 5.** Read the entries from your classmates then reply to at least one of the comments someone else made in the thread to engage in conversation like you would in a live group.
- Step 6.** Check the thread of comments and replies at least 2 times each week, preferably a few days apart, to read and respond in the conversation. For example, Monday and Thursday or Wednesday and Saturday.

## Basic Etiquette for Online Discussions

**Participate** The shared learning only works if all post and read, replying to questions or comments from others

**Stay on topic** Connect to the learning material and apply it

**Be brief**

**Be respectful** You may disagree with ideas without attacking or mocking the person

**Listen by reading everything in a discussion thread before replying**

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## Directions for Participating

### Basic Etiquette for Online Discussions

**Participate** The shared learning only works if all post and read, replying to questions or comments from others

**Stay on topic** Connect to the learning material and apply it

**Be brief**

**Be respectful** You may disagree with ideas without attacking or mocking the person. Refrain from using all caps.

**Listen by reading everything in a discussion thread before replying**

**Step 1.** Go to the course website from your library on [ncclcatholic.org](http://ncclcatholic.org) then click on the topic designated for the week. Topics are listed both in left menu and in the main window for the course.

*Typical topic designations:*

- Topic 1 in weeks 1 & 2
- Topic 2 in weeks 3 & 4
- Topic 3 in weeks 5 & 6
- Topic 4 in weeks 7 & 8

**Course 3. Leadership Practices for Catechetical Ministry - Instructor: Angel Barrera**

Leadership Practices explores Jesus' approach to leadership and the characteristics of servant leadership; and develops effective leadership practices for ministry.

**Leadership Practices**

**Course 3. Leadership Practices for Catechetical Ministry - Instructor: Angel Barrera: Dec 31**

- Course Introduction
- Leadership Practices Course Guides (Download)
- Course Project: Report Form & Assignments
- Topic 1. Servant Leadership**
- Topic 2. Exemplary Leadership: Five Practices
- Topic 3. Situational Leadership
- Topic 4. Developing Leadership
- Submit Course 3 Project Report

**Topic 1. Servant Leadership**

Servant Leadership Part 1. Servant Leadership in the Bible Using the Guide to passages that explore the Biblical teaching on S...

**Topic 2. Exemplary Leadership: Five Practices**

Exemplary Leadership: Five Practices & Ten Commitments Leadership is a set the actions that you take. It emerges from the v...

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**Step 2.** Scroll to the bottom of the Topic window to find the discussion thread.

The screenshot displays the NCCL online class interface. On the left is a sidebar with course information: 'NCCL Certificate in the Practice of Catechesis - Cohort 1 Courses', 'Lori Dahlhoff', '0% COMPLETE', 'Course 1. Principles and Practices of Catechesis - Instructor: Catherine LaVecchia: Dec 31', and a list of topics including 'Course Introduction' and '1. The Church's Vision of Catechesis in the Directory for Catechesis'. The main content area is titled 'Topic 1. Servant Leadership' and 'Servant Leadership', with a sub-section 'Part 1. Servant Leadership in the Bible'. Below this is the 'Online Class Discussion Weeks 1 & 2' section, which includes instructions to engage in conversation and a text input field with a 'Post Comment' button. A starter prompt by Lori Dahlhoff is shown, followed by a response example. A blue arrow points to the starter prompt, and three blue arrows point down from the 'Part 1' section header to the discussion area.

**Topic 1. Servant Leadership**

**Servant Leadership**

**Part 1. Servant Leadership in the Bible**

**Online Class Discussion Weeks 1 & 2**

Engage in conversation with your co-learners by responding to the starter prompts offered below, along with reading and replying to comments offered by others.

Say Something...

Post Comment

Lori Dahlhoff 20 minutes ago

STARTER PROMPT: Reflect on one of the scripture passages listed above. How can you apply the insights from this passage to your own leadership style?

REPLY EDIT

Lori Dahlhoff 13 minutes ago

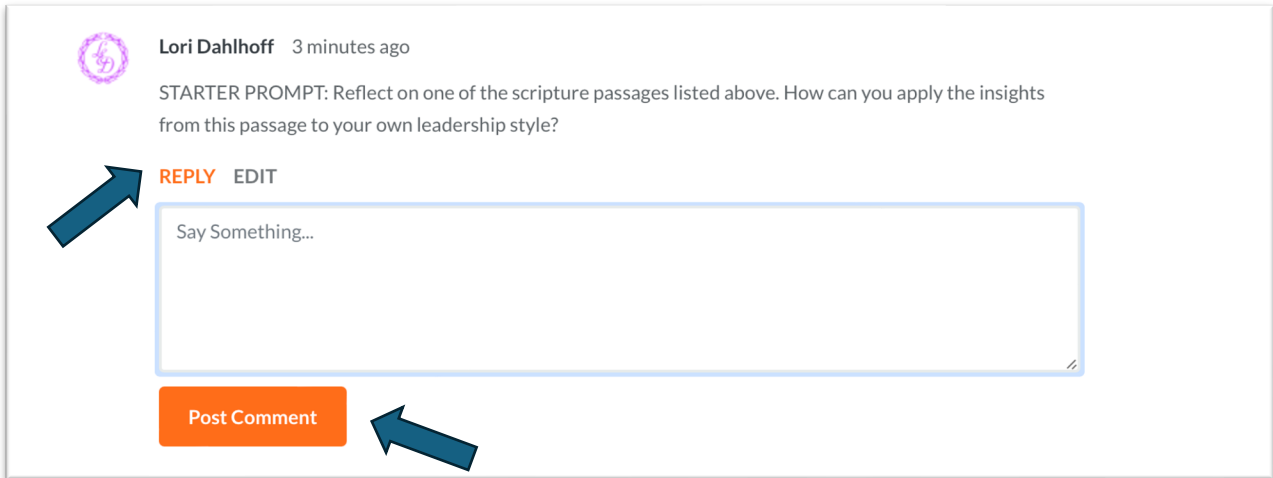
RESPONSE EXAMPLE: Isaiah helps me to remain patient with the frustrations that will naturally come with leading others to places they might go on their own or sharing the Good News that they may not be ready to hear.

REPLY EDIT

**Step 3.** Read the starter prompt posted by the course instructor or certificate coordinator.

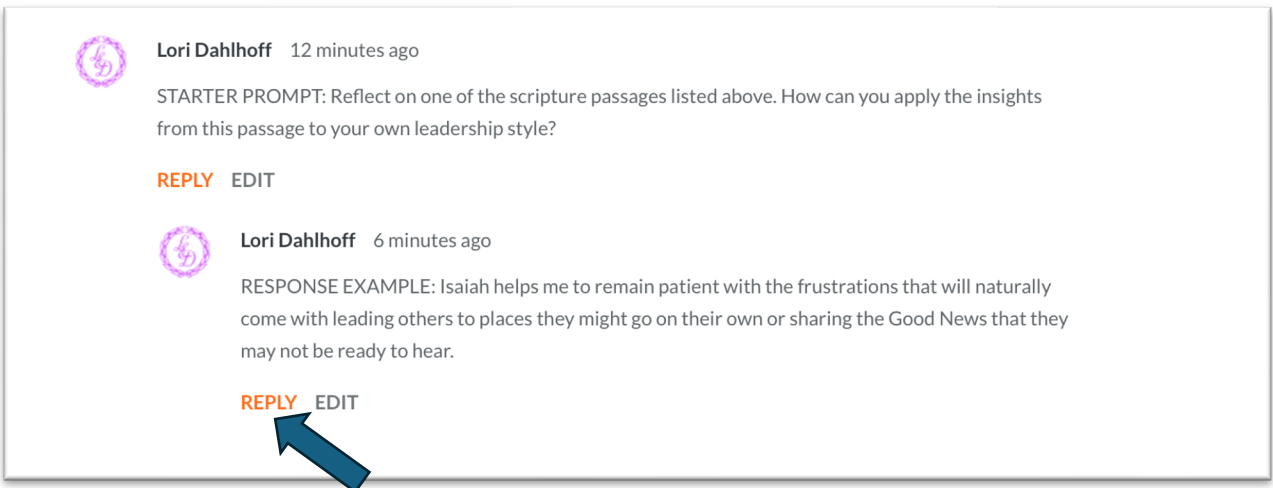
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**Step 4.** Click “REPLY” to the starter prompt comment then type your response in the comment box. Be sure to click the “Post Comment” button to log your response on the website.



The screenshot shows a user interface for a discussion. At the top, a user profile for 'Lori Dahlhoff' is shown with a purple circular icon containing a white 'L'. Below the profile, the text '3 minutes ago' is displayed. The main content is a 'STARTER PROMPT: Reflect on one of the scripture passages listed above. How can you apply the insights from this passage to your own leadership style?'. Below the prompt, there are two links: 'REPLY' in orange and 'EDIT' in grey. A large blue arrow points from the left towards the 'REPLY' link. Below the links is a large, empty text box with a light blue border and the placeholder text 'Say Something...'. At the bottom left of the text box is an orange button labeled 'Post Comment'. A blue arrow points from the bottom right towards the 'Post Comment' button.

**Step 5.** Read the entries from your classmates then reply to at least one of the comments someone else made in the thread to engage in conversation like you would in a live group. *To keep things manageable, please only add new comments/replies to a discussion during the designated week.*



The screenshot shows a discussion thread. At the top, a user profile for 'Lori Dahlhoff' is shown with a purple circular icon containing a white 'L'. Below the profile, the text '12 minutes ago' is displayed. The main content is a 'STARTER PROMPT: Reflect on one of the scripture passages listed above. How can you apply the insights from this passage to your own leadership style?'. Below the prompt, there are two links: 'REPLY' in orange and 'EDIT' in grey. Below these links is a user profile for 'Lori Dahlhoff' with a purple circular icon containing a white 'L'. Below the profile, the text '6 minutes ago' is displayed. The main content is a 'RESPONSE EXAMPLE: Isaiah helps me to remain patient with the frustrations that will naturally come with leading others to places they might go on their own or sharing the Good News that they may not be ready to hear.'. Below the response example, there are two links: 'REPLY' in orange and 'EDIT' in grey. A blue arrow points from the bottom left towards the 'REPLY' link.

**Step 6.** Check the thread of comments and replies at least 2 times each week, preferably a few days apart, to read and respond in the conversation. For example, Monday and Thursday or Wednesday and Saturday.