

✦ Prophets of Hope ✦

Volume 3

The Prophets of Hope Model

A Weekend Workshop

Prophets of Hope Editorial Team

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To young leaders, youth ministers, and
pastoral agents who are giving their lives to
carry Christ to Hispanic *jóvenes* in the
United States.



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The Prophets of Hope Model: A Weekend Workshop is the third volume in the Prophets of Hope series. Its goal is to help pastoral agents and adult leaders experience and understand the vision, methodology, and pastoral principles of the Prophets of Hope model for missionary and evangelizing communities of young adults. To achieve its goal, this book offers the necessary elements to hold a weekend workshop for a region, diocese, or parish. For best results, the workshop should be done with thirty to fifty people so that up to five small communities can be formed.

In this book, as in the entire Witnesses of Hope collection, the terms *joven*, *jóvenes*, and *juventud* may be used occasionally to refer to people in the age span from sixteen to twenty-four years old because there is no equivalent concept in the English language for this sociological group. A young person, male or female, aged sixteen to twenty-four is called a *joven* if he or she is single. *Jóvenes* is the plural of *joven*. *Juventud* refers to the sociological group formed by *jóvenes*. As with the other resources that Saint Mary's Press is publishing for the Prophets of Hope model, this book is aimed at people age sixteen and older. If there is a need to use this material with younger teenagers, it should be adapted.

The book is divided into three parts. The first part contains instructions for planning and implementing the workshop. The second part presents the process to be used for the weekend workshop. The third part contains four documents that can help in learning the Prophets of Hope model and four resources that serve as practical tools for the process of the workshop.

The Prophets of Hope Model is designed especially for young adult ministers and leaders who are planning and conducting the workshop. Young adults participating in the workshop may also use it for reflection, recording their experiences, and planning liturgies. Therefore, it is recommended that each member of the coordination team and every participant have their own copy. In this way the formation experience is accessible to more people, and everyone can learn how to give the workshops.

The Prophets of Hope process

Prophets of Hope was chosen as the name of the model because of the hope small communities offer Hispanic *jóvenes*, the Catholic church, and society in general. This model begins with the experience of Hispanic *jóvenes* in the United States, and shares in the theological and pastoral vision and spirituality of Hispanic young adult ministry outlined at the three Encuentros Nacionales de Pastoral Hispana. It also adopts the general objective of the National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry, which is intended to help Latino *jóvenes* do the following:

To live and promote by means of a *Pastoral de Conjunto*, a model of church that is: communitarian, evangelizing, and missionary; incarnate in the reality of the Hispanic people and open to the diversity of cultures; a promoter and example of justice; active in developing leadership through integral education; leaven for the Kingdom of God in society. (National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry*, p. 8)

The goal of the Prophets of Hope model is to promote the Christian formation and life of young adults through their participation in small communities. This model fosters a close relationship between the faith and life of young adults, bringing the Gospel into the affective, intellectual, spiritual, and sociopolitical dimensions of their life. It furthers the spirit of evangelization, community, and mission promoted in the New Evangelization called for by Pope John Paul II. It comes from a prophetic perspective and leads to the empowerment of young adults so that they might overcome the obstacles that prevent them from living in loving communion with God and one another.

To become more familiar with this model, please study the illustration and description of the Prophets of Hope process in document 1 on page 40. You should also review document 4 on the Witnesses of Hope collection, found on pages 52–53. This collection is being published as a resource for implementing the model. For a more complete overview of the model, please read the entire Witnesses of Hope collection. For training and assistance in the implementation of the model, please contact Instituto Fe y Vida, 1737 West Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton, CA 95207-3422.

The editorial staff would like to hear from you with your evaluation of the process, any adaptations you make, and your recommendations for future reference. Please write to us at *Proyecto de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana*, 1737 West Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton, CA 95207-3422.