

Small Christian Community and Family Community

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Testimony

Through an activity in the Small Christian Community(SCC) and prayers in my family , I have realized a family is a body whose members do not just live together but love and care for one another. I am lucky and grateful to be involved in the SCC.

I have been interested in the SCC since 2005. By that time, I didn't feel like doing anything else in my religious life because all my family members participated earnestly in their church activities. That year was the time when I became a leader of a district in our parish. To tell the truth, I didn't pay attention to the SCC until then although the parish priest had been eagerly talking about the SCC since 2002, the beginning year of his new ministry in our parish. I have learned about the SCC one by one through the sermons and the training courses for the evangelization and SCCs.

It was not easy for me to participate in the activities of the SCC, to share my life according to the Gospel and to make friendships with neighbors. However, I gathered my courage and shared my life in SCC in order to learn others' life and wanted to be a

little help to others. We shared and helped one another through the Seven Steps in the Gospel Sharing and made efforts to live out 'the Word' by the Sixth Step.

My husband and I began to talk more about our family after both of us participated in the SCC. We agreed the importance of the family, and then, decided to start praying and sharing the Gospel together including two children once a week on Saturday. The meeting was sometimes spoiled because we were impatient to get angry with children's reluctance in the early days. But, we gradually changed our mind week after week to respect their personality and to appreciate their attendance itself at the meeting

The children kept silent in the family prayer for a while, but later they opened their mouth by saying the words to thank us for our understanding. I was very happy then. The older child at the age of 15 might have been confused with his religion those days. At that time, he thought he didn't want to go to church because only someone in need would go there. He was so sensitive that we could not talk anything about church. But a year later, he began to go to church again because he might realize the loving parents. Our meeting was continued with only little discontinuance since then.

The pastoral objectives of our parish in 2007 are " To live up to Words, to be grateful to everything and to rejoice with the Spiritual guidance. And to make the life sound by family community through the SCCs." Accordingly, the parish priest recommended for all the families to pray together everyday. Many people asked him how the busy people like them could pray everyday in family. He said, "3 minutes a day is enough," and that encouraged us continuously. Therefore, my family started daily prayer with the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary and Free prayer hand in hand everyday from

the first day of 2007 in spite of the initial objection by the children. Later we hugged each other with saying "I love you" as well and that made us happier. Sometimes we only hug or say "God bless you" when we are too busy to pray together.

It is very difficult for the various kind of people to share their lives and make friendships. It is even more difficult that we accept the poor, the marginalized and the least important people at heart. However, we all try to live this way through the SCC where they are considered to be respected and equally important ones like the others. I thank God for leading us always.

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