Formation for a Christian Living of Sexuality: Focused on Parents and Young Adult Leaders

Goal
To acquire a comprehensive vision and practical tools for a Christian education in sexuality, with an emphasis on parents as educators of their adolescent children.

Objectives and Audience
• To prepare trainers, youth and family ministers, and young adult leaders to carry out a holistic sexual formation in their ministries, with an emphasis on parents as educators of their adolescent children.
• To offer parents sexual formation that will help them in their own development, their marriage, and the education of their children.
• To provide newlywed couples the opportunity to reflect on their own personal sexual life and as a married couple.
• To propose young adults a vision about sexuality that will help them in their courtship and prepare them to live the sacrament of Matrimony.

What motivated Instituto Fe y Vida to offer this training?
• Throughout the years, Instituto Fe y Vida offered numerous courses on how to live human sexuality from a Christian perspective, centered on young people. In addition, its faculty has taught classes to catechists and parents and has carried out pastoral counseling on this subject. These experiences revealed the urgent need to develop educational resources that would also be useful to others in the Hispanic community.
• Conversations with pastoral ministers, priests, and bishops showed the pressing need to handle this topic in depth. Many parents are highly disoriented and lack the knowledge to educate their children on this subject in face of the multiple challenges presented by the culture today.
• A request for training resources and programs for a Christian living of sexuality that consider the mixed culture of Latino youth, was one of the priorities in a research conducted by Fe y Vida throughout the US.

Four Modalities of the Programs
1. Training seminar for young adult leaders and parents
   Weeklong during the National Catholic Leadership Program
2. Training program for young adult leaders, parents, and trainers
   Four weekends at the local level, in dioceses, parishes, and other ecclesial institutions
3. Overview for faculty in universities and institutes
   Daylong workshop
4. Formation course for adults and young adults
   Four weekends at the community level in dioceses and parishes

“I invite you to recognize and value the good judgment and beauty of the moral teachings of the Catholic Church in order to fulfill ourselves better as human beings—men and women. Trust in Jesus’ gospel and have healthy and inspiring conversations regarding sexual issues, with your spouse, children, and faith communities”.

+Jaime Soto
Obispo de Sacramento