



December 29, 2009

Dear Brothers and Our Partners in Ministry:

The Provincial Council and I are proud to announce that Michael Crosby's *Choosing Compassion: The Paradox of Power* project is now available. The program includes six 20 minute videos on two DVDs with six turn-key lesson plans that supply the facilitator with dynamic, interactive exercises and discussion points for each video segment. The presentations can be designed for a 75 minute or 90 minute lesson and are great for groups in your friary, ministry, or parish.

Mike leads the audience through the following steps and explains how:

- The relationships in our lives and world can be built on care or control.
- Control works through fear and is expressed in abuse and violence.
- Conflicts arise, but we can learn how to resolve them and move to reconciliation.
- Change is a decision, and organizational transformation depends on behavioral change.
- We can create collaborative communities of trust that work for common goals.
- We can move through nonviolence and peace to deeper love and compassion.

In each 20 minute video presentation Mike addresses and interacts with a live audience, using examples from many publications and well-known individuals in the field of personal and organizational transformation. A Study Guide (on CD), prepared with the assistance of Dr. Lisa Calderone-Stewart, can then be used to help a facilitator in your ministry to lead groups through a series of worksheets and discussion points.

We realize that some houses or ministries may have people who are veterans at facilitating group processes while others may be serving in this role for the first time. The Study Guide can be adapted to a range of experiences and abilities: it includes a "broad strokes" version for veterans and a "step-by-step" guide for novices. We hope that this will minimize the preparatory work for facilitators and will make the overall program more "user-friendly." This program can be used in a variety of settings, from adult Christian formation in a parish to ministry council development. It would make an ideal Lenten series.

Choosing Compassion has an introductory price of \$79.95. However, because we believe in its transformative potential we would like to offer it to our Province-owned and Province-supported ministries for a very special price of \$39.95. Please add \$4.95 for shipping and handling. To order, please email Colleen: ccrane@thecapuchins.org or call 414.374.8841, ext. 27. To view segments of the video, go to www.ChoosingCompassion.net. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours in Christ,

John Celichowski, OFM Cap., Provincial Minister