Outlines for retreat talks:

**Who are you living for?**

“Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth [5](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0839/__PXM.HTM" \l "$3WO) and the life.” John 14:5,6

1. Who am I?
   1. What is my life about?
   2. What is the motivating factor in my life?
      1. What do I base my decisions (my life) upon?
      2. Friends?
      3. Family?
   3. If someone could see my every action yesterday at school, how would they describe me?
2. What am I living for?
   1. What is the purpose in my life?
   2. What is the goal of life?
   3. We oftentimes look to things that are fleeting.
      1. Each relationship ends somehow.
      2. Nothing tangible remains (“we have no lasting city”).
3. We live by for the wrong question.
   1. Who am I living for?
      1. Created for more- eternal love.
      2. We have a God who constantly seeks us.
   2. The relationship that endures.
      1. Sustains us here.
      2. Brings us to eternity.

**Be Not Afraid**

Read Luke 12:27-32

1. Called to Freedom
   1. God created us free.
      1. Free to love.
      2. Free to reject love.
      3. Free to be indifferent.
   2. God gives us freedom so that we can do something amazing-love.
2. Freedom and sin
   1. When we live out of fear
      1. Adam and Eve show us the destructive nature of fear.
      2. They didn’t trust God- they thought He was holding something back.
      3. They didn’t want God to be God- they took matters into their own hands.
   2. Most sin is a response to fear.
      1. If I don’t steal this, I will never have it.
      2. If I don’t lie, I’ll get in trouble.
      3. If I stand up for what’s right, I’ll be ostracized.
      4. If I sate my beliefs, people will think I’m weird.
   3. How do you want to live?
      1. Do you want to be who God created you to be?
      2. Do you want to live out of fear?
      3. Do you want the thoughts of others to determine the trajectory of your life?
3. Be Not Afraid
   1. One of the most constant sayings of Jesus.
      1. Why? Fear leads us to selfishness.
      2. Jesus is constantly telling us to “trust me, I’ve got this.”
   2. The Saints
      1. Mother Teresa did extraordinary things in her life.
      2. This isn’t because she was created any different than us.
      3. She was fearless.
         1. She wasn’t worried about where her next meal was coming from.
         2. She didn’t care what anyone said about her.
         3. She wasn’t concerned about her ego- she had a man spit in her face when she was trying to help someone.

**The Importance of Now**

Read Luke 18:35-43

* When people came to Jesus they were immediately changed.
  + There isn’t a story where Jesus called someone and they went home and thought about it.
  + Greatness comes in seizing the opportunity.
  + Jesus offers us greatness each and every day.
* Start being the person you want to be today.
* God has called you today.
* If God truly exists, He is the Lord of your entire life: this day, this hour and this second. Give it back to Him.
* Each decision or situation we face offers us a chance to choose to live for Jesus Christ.
* We can fall into a couple of different mentalities:
  + I’ll work on my faith later in life.
  + I’m too young to make a difference.
* It is up to you to find excuses or to get in the boat and follow Jesus.

**Small Things for Christ**

Luke 21:1-4

* What is God asking me to do?
  + He’s not asking us to spend all our day in prayer.
  + He’s not asking each of us to live in poverty and destitution.
  + We are supposed to enjoy life.
* God is asking us to live a life of faith, hope and charity.
* Living a life of faith is living with joy.
  + When people see us they should recognize our joy in small things.
  + When we see a wrong, we can try to right it.
  + When we see someone being picked on or in need of a friend, we can intervene.
* Living a life of hope is living fearlessly.
  + We’re going to worry about things.
  + Do our worries make us live selfishly or can we still be selfless?
  + We should trust God: that He does love me and want the best for me.
  + Share your faith with others.
* Living a life of charity is choosing another over oneself.
  + We need to give to others.
  + Give our time to those that need someone to talk to or are in a difficult situation.
  + Give our money to those who need it.
  + Instead of buying a new phone, shirt, or pair of shoes give that money to a homeless shelter, food bank or some other organization that serves others.
* God isn’t asking you to do everything; God is asking you to do everything that you do with love.