

## Dorothy Day: **SERVANT TO THE SUFFERING**



Dorothy Day was a convert to Catholicism and a cofounder of the social justice-missioned Catholic Worker Movement. As she embraced her identity and came to know herself as a Catholic, Dorothy focused her life's journey on providing hospitality to the poor and marginalized people in society. Respecting their dignity, but also acknowledging their suffering, Dorothy walked with the poor and vulnerable. Her Catholic Worker Movement continues to embrace the mission of providing food and hospitality to those in need.

## Questions for Reflection:

- 1 • Do a quick internet search on Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement. Why do you think Dorothy is remembered as an icon of the Catholic faith? Find a quote from her that you find especially meaningful. Be prepared to share this quote with your classmates.
- 2 • From your research, what do you think might have been Dorothy's image of God?
- 3 • How does Dorothy personify Isaiah's suffering servant?
- 4 • Why do you think Dorothy felt compelled to embrace people who society had discarded?
- 5 • Find an encouraging Scripture passage that would support people like Dorothy who commit their lives to alleviating suffering.
- 6 • In the excerpt from "*God and Suffering in the Christian Scriptures*", Gloria Schaab suggests that the "servant is a compassionate presence who liberates people from all that confines them physically and spiritually." How did Dorothy's work with the suffering heal people both physically and spiritually?
- 7 • Today, like every time in history, we are confronted with members of society who suffer. There are the poor, the lonely, the persecuted, the outcast, and the oppressed. It can be overwhelming to try to think of a way to help. Dorothy found a way that worked for her. What might work for you?
- 8 • What is something you learned about the life of Dorothy Day that inspires you?



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