



# Why Dominican?

## Study Guide for Inquiry Module 1:

### St. Dominic and His Mission of Preaching

The purpose of the inquiry phase of formation is to provide individuals an opportunity to begin discerning a vocation to the lay Dominican life. Essential to this process is a fundamental understanding of St. Dominic and how his life experiences prepared him to found the Order of Preachers.

#### PRAYER/CONTEMPLATION

In your prayer time, ask God to reveal experiences from your own life that helped you become the person you are today. Make a list of these experiences and bring them with you to the next gathering. There may also be people in your life who have influenced you significantly both positively and negatively. Take the time to pray for them privately in thanksgiving or in reconciliation.

#### STUDY

Read the following:

- Monshau O. P., Michael. *Praying with Dominic*. Winona, MN: Saint Mary's Press: 1993. (ISBN: 0-88489-288-3) Introduction, pp.15-27.
- Anderson O.P., Gregory. "The Life of Dominic" available at <http://domcentral.org/the-life-of-st-dominic/>

Reflect on the type of person St. Dominic was and the important events in his life.

#### COMMUNITY

The other Inquirers may be strangers to you at this point, but all of you will blend into the Dominican Family as the time goes on. Decide which parts of your personal life you wish to share in this initial stage of getting to know one another. As others share in the group, note what particular strengths they may reveal in what they share, for those strengths/gifts will be called upon by the group in the future.

#### APOSTOLATE

As you revisit your own life in prayerful study, notice particular issues or causes which have spurred you into action. Try to see times or situations in your life when you have preached the word of God formally or informally. These recollections will be helpful in deciding how you will put your prayer into action personally and within the Dominican Community in the future.