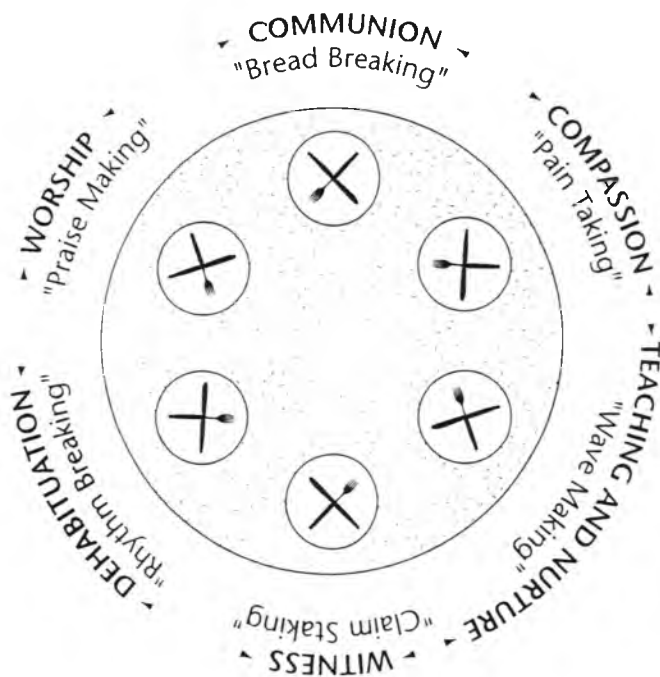


In the feeding of the five thousand, Jesus...did not act alone—and that is the key to his “miracle.” He acted in concert with others and evoked the abundance of community. Ultimately the body of Christ, so central to incarnational theology, is not the physical body of Jesus but the corporate body of those who gather around the Spirit, wherever it is found...Jesus exercises the only kind of leadership that can evoke authentic community—a leadership that risks failure (and even crucifixion) by making space for other people to act. When a leader takes up all the space and preempts all the action, he or she may make something happen, but that something is not community. Nor is it abundance, because the leader is only one person and one person's resources invariably run out. But when a leader is willing to trust the abundance that people have and can generate together, willing to take the risk of inviting people to share from that abundance, then and only then may true community emerge.<sup>4</sup>

—Parker J. Palmer

## Families of Christian Practices



## Examples of Christian Practices

|                      |                      |                        |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Baptism              | Fasting              | Simplicity             |
| Eucharist            | Forgiveness          | Speaking truth in love |
| Almsgiving           | Healing              | Spiritual direction    |
| Catechesis           | Hospitality and care | Spiritual friendship   |
| Chastity             | Intercession         | Spiritual resistance   |
| Christian conference | Justice              | Stewardship            |
| Christian marriage   | Keeping Sabbath      | Stillness              |
| Confession           | Ordination           | Supplication           |
| Confirmation         | Praise               | Testimony              |
| Contemplation        | Preaching            | Thanksgiving           |
| Covenanting          | Reconciliation       |                        |
| Discernment          | Repentance           |                        |
| Dying well           | Searching scripture  |                        |
| Evangelization       | Self-denial          |                        |

## Dismissal with Blessing

Go now to smuggle God into your world,  
Holding tight the hands of those with whom you share the way:  
Youth, parents, friends, colleagues, Christ.  
May your life show forth God at every turn;  
May your heart and your road be  
ablaze with holy fire.  
Amen!