

Introduction to Evangelization Training

Saint Paul Evangelization Institute

**Leaders
Workbook
& Handouts**



Welcome

Welcome to *Introduction to Evangelization* Training. This is one of the many courses developed at Saint Paul Evangelization Institute to help Catholics effectively share their faith. Sharing our faith can seem daunting or even out of place for Catholics today, but it is our duty and vocation to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This training is designed for beginners. No previous studies or training in theology, evangelization, or apologetics are necessary.

This training will benefit all Catholics who desire to share their faith. It will be especially fruitful for members of our street evangelization teams and their team leaders. Yet, the course goes beyond the particulars of street evangelization. If you are a Catholic who loves your faith and wants to know how to share it with those in your life (or even with those you have never met before), then this training is for you.

We encourage you to take your time as you progress through the course. Read each written lesson for homework. Also, read the Church documents and Scripture readings as suggested. At the very end of the course, you, and those who join you, will have a chance to take the final exam for a certificate of completion. Team leaders with St. Paul Street Evangelization must obtain at least this certification but team members do not have to be certified.

May our Father bless you as you grow to become a more effective evangelist! We are praying for you and everyone who joins you for the course.

In Christ,

Steve Dawson, President of Saint Paul Evangelization Institute

Saint Paul Street Evangelization

SPSE Overview:

St. Paul Street Evangelization (SPSE) is a grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to responding to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking the Catholic Faith to the streets.

- **Grassroots Effort** - Built from the ground up. Our teams go out with a joyful non-confrontational public presence. (Mt 28:16-20)
- **Simple Methods** - Built on the idea that every believing, baptized Catholic is capable and called to share their faith in simple, relational ways. We overcome the fear of sharing our faith by learning and practicing some basic evangelization skills. (CCC 1816)
- **Simple Tools** - The tools we use help us build friendships and relationships, so we can accompany others from the moment of conversion into a life of discipleship.

World Wide Impact

There are 200+ SPSE street teams, thousands of individual Missionaries and Prayer Warriors, hundreds of online resources, and workshops on evangelization, hospitality, and healing ministry.

Two-minute conversations with people on the street can change someone's life forever. By God's grace, we have witnessed thousands of conversions to Jesus & His Church.

These methods are not only for street evangelization, but they also help ordinary Catholics to become more comfortable and more fruitful evangelizing in everyday life.

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Mission

The mission of St. Paul Street Evangelization is to work with God for the salvation of souls through the proclamation of the Gospel in the public square. In particular, we teach ordinary Catholics (non-experts) to build relationships and create a bridge of trust between the people in the community and the local Catholic parish. Today, in humble submission to our bishops and priests, we join in the work of sharing our faith in a world that has either never known or forgotten God.

Goals and Objectives

- To become competent in the language of the Church, especially in regards to the New Evangelization.
- To be aware of our own discipleship, witness, and spirituality.
- To learn how to find common ground, build trust, and effectively and quickly share the faith with those we meet.
- To prepare to evangelize in both everyday life and on the street.

Introduction to Evangelization Training Sections

The goal of this series is to give you practical knowledge and skills, so you can share the faith in a charitable, confident and non-confrontational manner with anyone you meet. Topics will include:

1. The Basics
2. Introduction to the Kerygma
3. Introduction to Christian Testimony
4. Basic Evangelization Strategies-Part 1
5. Basic Evangelization Strategies-Part 2
6. Introduction to the Spiritual Life of the Evangelist-Part 1
7. Introduction to the Spiritual Life of the Evangelist-Part 2
8. Introduction to a New Pentecost



Leader Preparation for Course

Prayer and Fasting

When preparing for this course we suggest you pray and fast for at least one day. There are multiple reasons for this. For one, it will help you as the leader prepare to be a better instrument of God's grace. Second, it will be an effective way to intercede for those who will be attending the training. We suggest that you pray the rosary, make a holy hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament, and/or attend Holy Mass. We also suggest fasting or abstinence. Some examples could be consuming only bread and water for a day, abstaining from meat, or drinking only water (eat regular meals but only drink water instead of other beverages). Offer up your fasting and prayer for the participants and those they will evangelize. Pray for the virtues of courage, wisdom, and understanding. It is worth noting that each person should discern if and how they are able to fast. If you are medically excluded from fasting, then don't fast.

Course Material

Become familiar with the course material before presenting it. Each lesson includes both a full lesson text as well as a video. You could choose to go through the entire course before your group study begins, or you could go through the lessons each week prior to them being presented. Do not go through the material for the first time with the participants on the days you meet. As the leader, it will be important for you to be familiar with the material and the exercises so that each lesson runs smoothly.

Location

Secure a location to fit your expected group size and with access to a TV or projector. You can lead this in a home, a classroom, or a hall, depending on the size of the group.

Flow for Each Evening

Preparation/Introduction

For each class, it's important for you to show up early and make sure the video and audio are working correctly. If possible, show hospitality by providing snacks and refreshments. Offer name tags when people walk in so everyone can address one another by name. Even if the group is small, this is a good practice. Also, as noted earlier, read the full lesson text each week in preparation for class.

Opening Prayer

Begin each evening with the evangelist prayer which is included in the lesson. This prayer was written by our very own spiritual advisor Fr. Charlie Fox.

Ice-breaker/Testimony Report

At the first session use this time to help the participants get to know one another and share their hopes for the training or why they have come. You can use a fun ice-breaker activity to get people talking to each other. Another option is to have participants introduce themselves to the group, or pair up and introduce themselves to each other using the suggested questions, or pair up and introduce their partner to the class.

After the first week, this time is used to build a culture of evangelization by encouraging the participants to share the great work God is doing in their daily lives. Sharing real-life stories and encounters helps the participants to grow in faith and boldness. They will learn from each other as they develop their evangelization skills.

We have developed a simple Testimony Report handout to help the participants document their stories and encounters. A sample is at the end of this guide. Take time to review the Testimony Report handout with the class at the end of the first session so the participants will be ready to share their stories. We don't expect each participant to have a testimony each week, but they should be looking for opportunities to put into practice the evangelization skills they learn each session. Make sure that each participant shares at least one testimony report by the end of the course.

Read the Lesson Summary

Choose a participant to read the lesson summary to set the stage for the video.

Watching Video Lesson/ Using Notes and Quotes

Each session has a video to explain the material. The "notes and quotes" section is meant to highlight important quotes and material throughout the video. Encourage the participants to fill in the "notes and quotes" section as they watch each video. Recognize that for some students, filling out the notes may be distracting; so each participant should do what works best for them. After watching the video, review the "note and quotes" with the group. The answers to the questions are in your guide. The answer is the word in brackets.

Prayerful Reflection and Exercises

Each session will include time for prayerful reflection and/or a group exercise. Review the corresponding material before each session begins and be prepared to explain each exercise. Notice that the timing of sessions may vary slightly depending on the length of the video and the number of exercises.

Review Homework/Closing Prayer

Each lesson will include a corresponding homework assignment. The homework will consist of both a practical exercise as well as a reading assignment. Review the homework assignments. They are designed to stretch the participants beyond their comfort zones as they boldly start to evangelize. Encourage them. You can ask the participants for suggestions on how they plan to complete the practical exercises or do simple role-plays with them.

End the evening with a closing prayer. Use the ACTS method (Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication) so the participants become familiar with it. Encourage participants to take turns leading the prayer as a way for them to practice praying out loud. They can make up their own prayer or use the suggested prayer provided at the end of each lesson.

Suggested Timeline for Each Session (For Weekly Training)

This is a suggested timeline to be used as a guide. The length of videos and number of exercises vary between sessions so the timing may shift a bit for each session. Review each session ahead of time and adjust the discussion or exercise times as needed.

1) Welcome/Snacks	10 minutes
2) Opening Prayer (The Evangelist Prayer)	2 minutes
3) Testimony Reports	10 minutes
4) Read Lesson Summary (Choose a Participant)	1-5 minutes
5) Watch Video	20-30 minutes
6) Answer Video Questions	5 minutes
7) Prayerful Reflection and Exercises	10 - 25 minutes
8) Closing Prayer	3 minutes

Total Time: approx. 1.5 Hrs

Suggested Timeline For One-Day Training

This is a suggested timeline to be used as a guide. Since the lessons will all be done at once the icebreakers can be skipped and the homework/reading sections can be completed afterwards. For the purpose of completing everything in one day just focus on the videos and the exercises. Review each session ahead of time and adjust the discussion or exercise times as needed.

1. Welcome	5 minutes
2. Opening Prayer (The Evangelist Prayer)	2 minutes
3. Lesson 1	20 minutes
4. Lesson 1 Exercise	10 minutes
5. Lesson 2	30 minutes
6. Lesson 2 Exercise	10 minutes
7. Break	20 Minutes
8. Lesson 3	15 minutes
9. Lesson 3 Exercise	15 minutes
10. Lesson 4 Part 1	30 Minutes
11. Lesson 4 Part 1 Exercise	10 Minutes
12. Lesson 4 Part 2	20 Minutes
13. Lesson 4 Part 2 Exercise	20 Minutes
14. Closing Prayer	3 Minutes

Total Time: approx. 3.5 Hrs

Invite Everyone to do Lesson 5 and 6 as Homework

Opening and Closing Prayers

Opening Prayer — The Evangelist Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit!

Set our hearts on fire with zeal for the Gospel,
love for all people,
and the desire for their salvation.

Inspire us that we might proclaim the Gospel
persuasively and with charity,
giving witness with our words and our lives.

Give us courage in proclaiming the Lordship of Jesus Christ,
and the truth, beauty, and goodness of our Catholic Faith.

We beg you also to open the hearts of all people,
helping them to know Your love
and Your call to the fullness of life in Your Church.

Through our holy patrons, Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Paul,
we ask these graces for all Catholic evangelists,
and we make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord
Amen.

Closing Prayer — Using the ACTS Method

Close in prayer using the ACTS method. ACTS stands for Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. Pray from your own heart or follow the template below.

Almighty God and Father, we love you and adore your Holy Name. We are sorry for the ways that we have failed you. In Jesus Christ, forgive us for our sins against you and against our neighbor. You are a good Father and we thank you for our many blessings. Jesus, we ask you to bless and help us as we strive to become great evangelists for your Kingdom. We also pray for *[add any personal intentions within the group]*. We pray this in Jesus' name, imploring the intercession of all the saints and angels.

Amen.

Lesson 1: The Basics

Opening Prayer — The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker — Get-to-Know-You-Questions

If this is your first time gathering, then make sure to introduce yourselves. Here are some questions you can talk about to help you get to know one another:

1. What is your name?
2. What is one thing you love to do?
3. What brought you to this evangelization series?
4. What do you hope to get out of this series?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Evangelization means “to proclaim the good news.” The good news is that God genuinely and passionately desires the salvation of sinners. Evangelization proclaims this mercy, for evangelization is the proclamation of the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Messiah (the Savior and King anointed by God) who came to effectively deliver mankind from all forms of slavery, especially the worst forms of slavery, slavery to the devil and to sin. He did this through His death and resurrection which won forgiveness and new life for us; as disciples of Jesus, we are sent to proclaim this and call all to accept salvation into eternal life through living a new life of faith in Him. Evangelists must proclaim the good news both through the witness of a holy life, and through words spoken in love.

Notes and Quotes

1. Evangelization is proclaiming the Gospel of (*salvation*) in (*Jesus Christ*).
2. In the ancient world an evangelist was anyone who brought a (Gospel), who announced (good news).
3. To evangelize is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus’ victory over (sin) and (death) and his offer of eternal salvation through a new life of faith in Him.
4. According to Pope Saint Paul VI, “The first means of evangelization is the (witness) an authentically Christian life.”
5. Although witness of life is important it is not enough in itself. Proclaiming the Gospel with (words) is necessary.
6. It is crucial that we (pray) before, during, and after we evangelize.

7. We will be effective as evangelists only if we allow ourselves to become (instruments) of the Holy Spirit.

8. What are the four steps in our evangelization model?

1. (**Listen.** Attend to the voice of God in prayer beforehand. Then take that posture of listening to others. Attend to them and get to know them. Discover how Christ is already working in them.)
2. (**Befriend.** Show others that they are valued and loved for their own sake. Someone cares about them as persons, not just as potential converts.)
3. (**Proclaim.** Speak the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ, through His Church, boldly, yet in ways that fit the person and situation.)
4. (**Invite.** Pray for them on the spot if appropriate. If they are ready, ask them to pray and open their hearts to Jesus Christ. Invite them to some kind of follow-up opportunity.)

Exercise – Evangelizing Today

Take about 10 minutes to read through the questions below silently and jot down an answer. When you are finished, discuss them as a group. Break into small groups for discussion if needed.

- What opportunities do you have to evangelize?
- Who do you want to evangelize? (those you see daily, occasionally, or only once)
- Why do you want to evangelize?
- How have you been on the receiving end of evangelization?
- Do you anticipate any difficulties? How can you overcome them?
- What ways can you evangelize your peers?
- What are some examples of the wrong way to evangelize?
- What things help to make evangelization effective?

Testimony Report

Leaders Note: Pass out the testimony report sheet. Review the report with them and let them know that it will serve as a guide to help them share evangelization stories. Each participant should be able to complete at least one or two Testimony Reports during the course.

Each week everyone in the group will be encouraged to share an evangelization story that has happened since the last meeting. The testimony report is meant to serve as a guide to sharing the encounter. We don't expect everyone to have a testimony report each week, but be open to opportunities to put into practice the evangelization skills you learn each session. Complete a few Testimony Reports during the course and share at least one with the class. Sharing real-life stories and encounters helps you to grow in faith and boldness. Class members will learn from one another as each develops his or her evangelization skills.

Homework — Prayer

As you have learned, one of the most basic, fundamental principles of an evangelist is his prayer life. So what we're going to do in this first practical activity is pray. We're going to ask the Lord to bring to our mind a person for whom He wants us to intercede. Ask the Holy Spirit, "Holy Spirit, bring to my mind one person for whom You want me to intercede, for their conversion." Then, pray for that person every day — at least for the next week.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 1 *The Basics*-Complete Text

Lesson 2 *Introduction to the Kerygma*-Complete Text

Closing Prayer — Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 2: Introduction to the Kerygma

Opening Prayer – The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

How was the prayer exercise last week? Any testimony reports to share?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Everyone longs for God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ answers that longing by showing us the way to Him. Kerygma means “preaching,” and is equivalent to the Gospel message itself, which should be preached with joy and conviction. The kerygma is commonly divided into a four-part message:

1. God’s loving plan for our lives
2. the problem of sin
3. the saving work of Jesus
4. the invitation to repent and embrace Jesus by faith.

However, there are other ways to present it that focus on one or more of these elements, especially parts 3 and 4. We share the kerygma to help save people from eternal death, for eternal life with God. The kerygma has power because God puts His grace behind it and makes us His instruments for salvation. Many who hear it will be “cut to the heart” because the kerygma speaks to the desires of the human heart, uncovers hidden guilt for sin, and gives hope for forgiveness and salvation.

Notes and Quotes

1. Jesus came to give us (power) to become children of God.
2. Jesus came to bring us restoration to (glory), abundant (life), full (joy), (freedom) from sin and death, and what we long for most which is (love).
3. Kerygma is the central (proclamation) of the Gospel. The living word that gives birth to (faith) in people's hearts.
4. “The heart of the kerygma is the (declaration) of what God has done in His Son.”
5. The Kerygma is commonly divided into a 4-point message: (1) God’s loving plan for our lives, (2) the problem of sin, (3) the saving work of Jesus, and (4) the invitation to repent and embrace Jesus by faith. In Peter Herbeck’s presentation, he used a different model, which focuses on Jesus and the invitation to respond to Him. What are the 5 key elements of the Kerygma, in Peter’s presentation?
 - a. Jesus came from God, He was (crucified), and God raised him
 - b. Jesus performed signs that proved his (divinity)

- c. Jesus is (Lord) and Messiah
 - d. Repent and be (baptized) for the forgiveness of your sins
 - e. Receive the gift of the (Holy Spirit)
6. Why do we evangelize?
- a. The Church (exists) to evangelize.
 - b. The Great (Commandment)- Go make disciples of all nations
 - c. Fear of the (Lord)
 - d. We believe, and so we (speak)
 - e. The love of (Christ) compels us
 - f. Life or (death), heaven or (hell)
 - g. Winning the (Crown)
7. The content of the Kerygma is Good News about (Jesus), but the method of the Kerygma is the work of the (Holy Spirit).
8. Through the Kerygma God gives (light) to recognize Jesus.

Exercise – Proclaiming the Gospel Message

Take about 10 minutes to read and pray with the Gospel message and the essential elements. Then answer the following four questions in your own words. You can do this in a chapel (if one is nearby) or in the room where the group is gathered.

- a. What is the kerygma?
- b. Why do we evangelize?
- c. What is meant by “power for salvation”?
Why does the kerygma have power?
- d. What does “power for salvation” look like?

“But how are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?” - Romans 10:14

After the 10 minutes are complete, find a partner and take turns practicing proclaiming the Gospel. Go beyond a basic statement of the Gospel and elaborate on each part. Give feedback using the questions below as a guide.

- What was the best part?
- Did they hit the main points?
- Are there any areas that need improvement?

Homework — Share the Good News

This homework is meant to build confidence in sharing the Good News. *Ask a friend or family member to help you practice sharing what you have written.* (You might first ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the person or persons that you should ask.) After you share it, ask them how you did: did it make

sense to them? Were you speaking clearly and straightforwardly? What did it make them think about or feel? Enter into a dialogue with them about what you shared. *Pray with them.* You may pray in your own words, thanking and praising God, asking Him for deeper knowledge and love of Him. Or you may just pray the Lord's Prayer — an "Our Father" — sincerely from the heart.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 3 *Introduction to Christian Testimony*-Complete Text

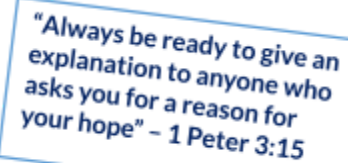
Closing Prayer — Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 3: Introduction to Christian Testimony

Opening Prayer – The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

Was anyone able to practice their Kerygma this past week?
Any testimony reports to share?



"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope" – 1 Peter 3:15

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Stories are powerful! A personal testimony is a story of conversion to Jesus and His church, shared with another person for his or her spiritual benefit. As a unique witness of the good that God has done in your life, your personal testimony is a powerful tool for evangelization, breaking through barriers and making Jesus and His saving love real to those who hear it. Your testimony shares select elements of your life from before your conversion, during your conversion, and after your conversion. It should be told in a way that gives God glory and is understandable to the hearer while inviting them to accept the Lord into their life as you have. Developing your best basic testimony requires some reflection, prayer, and practice, but the benefits are more than worth the effort. Just a note that your testimony does not necessarily need to be a moment or event, but could have taken place over time.

Notes and Quotes

1. To be an effective evangelist we need to know the power that flows out of a good (story).

Pause video at 3:50 for an exercise (10 minutes)

Exercise: Reflect briefly about a fun personal story you love to tell. Retell that story to a partner at their table. Make it personal and relatable. Take turns.

2. A testimony reveals God's (initiative) to love us to himself. It also reveals our (response) to His goodness.
3. Our testimony makes the Gospel (relatable) to modern people.
4. Our testimony gives an example of what (conversion) looks like.
5. The basic structure of a personal testimony consists of three parts: a (before, during and after conversion).
6. After you've shared the three parts of your testimony, you might add a fourth part, which is an (invitation).
7. The length of your testimony depends on your (audience).

Exercise – Sharing your Story

Now it is time to write your own testimony. Take about 20 minutes for this exercise. Review the “Testimony Dos and Don’ts” reference sheet. This will help you as you prepare your testimony.

They should keep their testimonies to 3 main points:

- What was your life like before Christ?
- How did Jesus change your life?
- What is your life like now?

It's God's work in your life!

- My life before
- When God broke in
- My response

When you finish, practice your story out loud with a partner

Testimony Dos & Don'ts reference sheet

When you share your testimony, if there are dramatic examples of sin in your life, speak of them in general ways. Too many details can be a distraction, take the focus off God's work in your life, and cause other problems.

What to Do:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you to say only that which he wants you to say.
- Speak clearly and make eye contact.
- Speak directly with the person you are evangelizing in a conversational tone.
- Practice your testimony. It will make you more confident when it comes time to share the wonderful works that God has done in your life with others.
- Be brief. Generally, you do not want to share a testimony that is longer than 2-3 minutes, unless you are giving a presentation to those who expect a longer explanation.
- Know what is it you want the person to get out of your testimony.

What to Avoid:

- Do not give a biography of your life; although it is important to you, too many details are distracting and water down the main point. Include the things that are relevant to how you came to love Jesus and his Church. When preparing your testimony, the details you include must, in some way, serve this purpose.
- Do not use Catholic terminology or phrases that would be unfamiliar to others. Don't assume that others know the Trinity, Blessed Mother, Eucharist, Adoration, or Real Presence. If you must use a Catholic term, then define it first.
- Do not exaggerate elements of your story or downplay things out of a false sense of humility.

Be authentic!

- Do not be negative about other people or other religious organizations; a testimony is about hope and your thankfulness for God's mercies.

- Do not read your testimony; this is your story, to be told simply from the heart.
- Do not be afraid; the focus is not on you, but on the works of God in your life.

General Outline:

- Begin with an interesting story.
- Describe your early faith life, to the degree that you were distant from, or not as close as you are now, to God and the Catholic Church.
- Tell the story of how and why this changed, perhaps gradually or suddenly, in your life.
- Explain what difference a relationship with Jesus and the Catholic Church has made in your life.
- Allow those you meet to see your confidence, your joy in the Lord, and your love for his Church.

Homework — Share your Testimony

This homework is meant to help you build confidence in sharing the story of your conversion with others. Look over your personal testimony. Make any improvements that may be necessary. Once you are happy with the results, ask a friend or family member to help you practice giving your testimony. (You might ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the person or persons that you should ask.) You may bring some notes to help keep you on track. When you have shared your testimony, ask them for input: Were you clear? Do they have any questions? Enter into dialogue with them about what you shared. Pray with them. You may pray in your own words, thanking and praising God, asking Him for deeper knowledge and love of Him. Or you may just pray the Lord's Prayer — an "Our Father" — sincerely from the heart.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 4 *Basic Evangelization Strategies*: 4.1-4.5

Closing Prayer — Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 4: Basic Evangelization Strategies Part 1

Opening Prayer — The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

Was anyone able to share their testimony this past week? Any testimony reports to share?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

It's very common to be afraid of sharing our faith with others. But with the help of the Holy Spirit, such fear can be overcome. In the work of evangelization, conversation is central; and the Saint Paul Street Evangelization four-part model for evangelizing others—listen, befriend, proclaim, pray & invite—is all about conversation. Through “getting-to-know-you”-type questions and offering a sacramental as a gift, we can get the conversation going. By active listening, we can move the conversation forward and earn the right to be heard. Once we have earned the right to be heard and the right opportunity presents itself, we can transition to proclaiming the gospel with non-threatening questions and invitations, or with gifts.

Notes and Quotes

1. Many times we prevent ourselves from evangelizing because of our own (fear)
2. In order to overcome fear, the first step is to (recognize) what's happening in your heart. The second step is to (pray). The third step is to (act).
3. The first goal in starting a conversation is to (build trust).
4. Our hope is that the conversation eventually leads to an opportunity to proclaim the (Gospel).
5. We need to rely on the (Holy Spirit), take advantage of (opportunities), and ask (questions).
6. If you are giving away a Miraculous Medal you can say “Do you need a (miracle) in your life?”
7. Engage in active listening by being (aware), paying attention to (the person), withholding (judgement), reflecting back what you have (heard), asking (questions), and speaking God's word into their (life).
8. When evangelizing find an (opening) to share the word of God.

How does one transition to sharing the Gospel?

- o Method 1: (Give away a sacramental)
- o Method 2: (Ask them about the Faith)
- o Method 3: (The Direct Approach)
- o Method 4: (One Good Reason Approach)
- o Method 5: (Pray with them)

- o Method 6: (Special Strategies)

9. It is best to engage in apologetics when it will overcome (obstacles) to faith.

Exercise – Conversation Starters

Usually, the first step in evangelization is to get to know a person and earn the right to be heard. This goes beyond getting to know their name, where they work, about their family, where they are from, or what their hobbies and sports interests are. It means getting to know where they are in their relationship with God. In this exercise, find a partner and use some of the methods explained in the video to start a conversation and see where it leads. The idea is to get a conversation started without the person getting defensive or making them feel like they are a victim of religious sales pitch. This exercise is less about having the right answers, and more about learning how to ask the right questions. In order to listen we must first learn how to engage and ask good questions that will lead to fruitful conversations about faith. Here are a few suggestions:

Listen/Befriend

- 1) Offer a sacramental: “Would you like a free miraculous medal?” [hold it out on a chain with a cross on it so they know it is Christian] or “Would you like a free rosary?” or “Hi, I know this may be awkward, but I just feel called to give this miraculous medal to you. Have you heard of it before?”
- 2) Offer Prayer: “We are out here offering prayer. Do you need prayer for anything?” or “We are about to pray grace for our meal, is there anything you would like us to pray for?”
- 3) Make an invitation: “Hi, I just wanted you to be aware that our Church is having its annual festival this weekend. Would you be interested in attending?”

Proclaim (When Appropriate)

Specifically discern where they are in their own relationship with God by asking one of the following questions.

- 1) Did you grow up practicing a particular faith?
- 2) Have you ever been to a Catholic Church before?
- 3) Have you ever considered the Catholic Church?
- 4) How is your relationship with God right now?

Remove Roadblocks (If necessary)

- 1) Relate to their story by sharing your own testimony
- 2) Tell them that you understand. Many times in our modern culture many people associate Christianity with following a list of rules. The truth is Christianity is about a relationship with God. (Share the Kerygma)

- 3) Use One Good Reason to remove a particular roadblock. “Before you go can I just give you one good reason why I choose to be Catholic?”

Invite

People are often very open to sharing their opinion on the Catholic faith and learning more. Use a few of these perfect non-confrontational questions that lead to an invitation to join you for an event or at your parish?

- 1) Have you ever thought about becoming Catholic before?
- 2) Would you be open to coming to Mass with me Sunday?
- 3) I lead (or attend) a bible study on Wednesdays. Would you be interested in coming with me this Wednesday?
- 4) I know you have to run. Would you be interested in grabbing a coffee later this week? Perhaps Wednesday evening or Saturday morning?

Pray

People loved to be prayed for. Pray in such a way that would feel comfortable praying.

- 1) Before you go would it be ok if I said a prayer for you right now?

Homework

This assignment is meant to build your confidence in evangelizing. First, ask the Holy Spirit to be with you and inspire you. Next, be open to an opportunity to start a conversation about faith this week. This could be a person you know for a long time or it could be someone you just met such as a waitress, cashier, or person on the street. Try and discern where the person is at in their relationship with God and use one of the methods from our Basic Evangelization Strategies to help lead them to a deeper faith.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 4 *Basic Evangelization Strategies*: 4.6-4.9

Closing Prayer — Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 4: Basic Evangelization Strategies Part 2

Opening Prayer – The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

Did anyone have a conversation about faith this past week? Does anyone have a testimony report?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Once we have proclaimed the gospel, we should invite the person to respond. At this time, it is important to pray out loud with them; but it is appropriate almost any time during the process.

Notes and Quotes

1. After you have proclaimed Christ (invite) the person to take the next step. This next step depends on where the person is in their (life) and walk with God.
2. After you invite them to take the next step to invite them to pray because prayer brings about the (presence) of God.
3. How do we pray?
 - a. Make an Invitation to (prayer).
 - b. Ask (permission) to place a hand on them.
 - c. Listen to the inspiration of the (Holy Spirit).
 - d. Pray out (loud).
4. Pray with your words or memorized prayer, or (ACTS) method (Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication)
5. Don't make prayer too (long).
6. Tracts, pamphlets, and books can be helpful (tools).
7. Study (controversial) issues and when you can't answer a question, feel free to refer them to a book, pamphlet, tract, or person that can.

Exercise – Role Play

Design your own role-play in a small group and share it with the group. You only have 15 minutes for this project. Each role-play needs to be no more than 3 minutes.

1. Pick a scenario from the list below (or come up with your own);
2. Begin each scene naturally and with the icebreakers from the lesson;
3. Listen to their response to gather their faith tradition/story;
4. Be prepared to respond using active listening, the kerygma, your testimony, and/or One Good Reason;

5. End the conversation naturally with an invitation to pray together as well as a follow-up opportunity to Mass, bible study, coffee, etc.

The point of the role-playing is not to try to perfect real-life interactions. There are limits to any role play. The goal is to practice and progress. You don't wake up one day and get drafted to the NFL. First, you toss around a football in your yard with a parent, friend, or sibling. Then, you learn the rules of the game, followed by playing pick-up games in your neighborhood. You might then join a team. All along the way, you are going to fumble the ball. You'll make mistakes and lots of them. We're here to take risks in a safe environment, throw the football around, and fumble it a few times. Your teacher is going to give you feedback, and we will have a class discussion after every role-play.

Scenarios to Choose From:

1. **Fundamentalist Freddie** — "I'm a born again Christian." "Catholics worship statues."
2. **Atheist Annie** — "I believe in science, not religion. Religion is a fairy tale."
3. **Hedonist Henry** — "I don't need that Jesus stuff. I'm just fine the way I am."
4. **Relativist Rick** — "Why can't you just leave people alone? Everyone is free to believe whatever they want."
5. **Protesting Polly** — "The Catholic Church is evil. It preys on children and should sell everything it owns and give it to the poor."
6. **Lukewarm Lisa** — "I'm a pretty good person and I think I'll go to heaven."
7. **Lapsed-Catholic Luke** — "I went to 12 years of Catholic schools so I know everything Catholics believe. I quit going to church."
8. **Despairing David** — "I'm just going to stand here and not say much."
9. **Baptist Bob** — "Catholics, Mormons, and Jehovah's Witnesses are all cults."
10. **Wounded Warren** — "I love Jesus, but you know, right now I just really wonder if he is there. My child is sick and the doctors can't figure out what is wrong, and I don't know where my next meal will come from. I can't find a job."
11. **Wounded Wendy** — "How can you claim that God is real? If only you knew the suffering I have been through. God would never allow that."
12. **Non-Denominational Nathan** — "As long as we believe in Jesus and the Bible, we are all the same."
13. **Suspicious Sally** — "I'm a Catholic, and Catholics aren't supposed to do this. This is going to turn people off from the faith. You evangelize by the way you live your life."
14. **Rolling Eyes Rick** — "I'm not a Catholic, I am a Christian."
15. **Spiritual Samantha** — "I'm spiritual, not religious."
16. **Millennial Mike** — "I don't care about religious stuff. I have no interest in God or what you're selling. I've heard it before."

Homework- Give away a Miraculous Medal or Rosary

The homework assignment this week is the same as last week. The goal is to build your confidence in evangelizing. First, ask the Holy Spirit to be with you and inspire you. Next, be open to an opportunity to give away a miraculous medal or rosary with a person this week. This could be a person you know for a long time or it could be someone you just met such as a waitress, cashier, or person on the street. After you give it away be open to praying with the person, asking if they go to Church, and if appropriate inviting them to Mass or a bible study.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 5 *Introduction to the Spiritual Life of the Evangelist*: 5.1-5.5

Closing Prayer – Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 5: The Spiritual Life of an Evangelist-Part 1

Opening Prayer – The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

Was anyone able to give away a medal or rosary this past week? Does anyone have a testimony report?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

If we want to be faithful, effective evangelists, then we need to have a strong spiritual life. This means that we have to pray daily. Prayer is to the soul what air is to the lungs. To grow in holiness, we should gradually learn how to “pray constantly.” We also need to build spiritual disciplines into our lives to form a foundation for that growth.

**“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.”
– John 15:5**

Notes and Quotes

1. Our relationship with the Lord will (inform) and (direct) our evangelization.
2. Prayer is (life) for the soul, and lack of prayer is (deadly) for the soul.
3. Name the prayers from the heart of the Church
 - a. (The Mass)
 - b. (Devotions)
 - c. (Memorized Prayers)
 - d. (Meditation and Contemplation)
4. The 7 (precepts) of the Church are the basic guidelines to be considered a practicing Catholic.
5. The morning offering should remind us of God’s (goodness)
6. How do you pray with the bible?
 - a. Call upon the (Holy Spirit)
 - b. Read the scripture (slowly)
 - c. Recognize if anything (strikes) you or comes to the heart
 - d. Speak to the (Lord) about what is happening
 - e. Finish by thanking God and making a (resolution);
7. The process of rooting out (sin) is an important part of the spiritual journey

Exercise – Personal Spiritual Life

Reflect prayerfully on your personal spiritual life and your relationship with God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Identify specific events, situations, or places where you experienced God active in your life. Recall how you responded to God in those situations. This is a time for honest prayer and reflection; there are no right/wrong answers. You can use some of the questions below to help start and guide your prayer. If possible, do this exercise in a chapel. After prayerful reflection break into small groups. Discuss your plans for prayer as an evangelist. Share them with one another and hold one another accountable during the week.

- What is your experience of God?
- Do you see Him working in your life?
- Are you praying daily? Is prayer difficult?
- Are you noticing advancement in the spiritual life?
- Do you desire to grow deeper in your relationship with God?
- Ask God to guide you on your spiritual journey.
- Listen.

Homework

Pick one or two habits that you discerned would help you grow in your own prayer life. Begin to put them into practice this week with the intention to make them a regular part of your spiritual life.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 5 *Introduction to the Spiritual Life of the Evangelist*: 5.6-5.9

Closing Prayer – Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 5: The Spiritual Life of an Evangelist-Part 2

Opening Prayer – The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

How was everyone in keeping to their prayer commitments? Any comments or stories from beginning these new habits? Does anyone have any testimony reports?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Rooting out sin is an important part of growing as an evangelist, and it should take place in the context of our growing knowledge of God's love for us. Holiness is always a call to deeper freedom in God's love, and so we should not be overly severe or inflexible with ourselves. Also, we are each called to be a saint in a unique way. When difficulties and feelings of discouragement come, we should not be surprised but persevere in prayer, knowing that God is equipping us for greater things through various trials. As evangelists, we should pay special attention to doing spiritual battle for souls, in imitation of the Crucified Lord Jesus.

Notes and Quotes

1. (Holiness) is not about living the perfect sinless life. It is about our capacity to turn away from sin which enables us to grow towards God.
2. Growth in holiness is a (journey) we take in order to conform to God.
3. Holiness becomes possible when we (trust) God.
4. Holiness is about becoming the person (God) created you to be.
5. How to prepare for obstacles
 - a. Know your (enemies)
 - b. (Strive) for Holiness
6. Three habits to battle for souls (+ 1 bonus habit)
 - a. Intercede for the (conversion) and salvation of others
 - b. Develop a regular habit of (sacrifice)
 - c. Embrace God's (sorrow) for others
 - d. Meditate on Sin, Judgment, Hell, and the (Cross)

Exercise – Know your Enemies

Reflect prayerfully on your life and ask yourself what is your greatest obstacle to becoming a saint. How can you overcome this obstacle? After prayerful reflection, find a partner. Pray for one another for the grace to overcome your greatest obstacles to becoming a saint.

Come Holy Spirit, help me to see your work in my life...

Homework

Pick one or two habits of the battle for souls from the lesson. Begin to put them into practice this week with the intention to make them a regular part of your spiritual life.

Reading for Next Class

Lesson 6 *Introduction to the New Pentecost*-Complete Text

Closing Prayer – Using the ACTS Method

Lesson 6: Introduction to the New Pentecost

Opening Prayer — The Evangelist Prayer

Ice-Breaker

How has your prayer been impacted since the last meeting? Any testimony reports?

Lesson Summary

Leaders Note: Pick a person to read the lesson summary aloud before watching the video

Because of the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, we have access to the life and power of God, the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit first came upon the Church and equipped her for the work of evangelization. Because of this, Pentecost tells us a lot about that work. Specifically, it tells us the method, the message, and the power-source of evangelization. The method is prayerful preparation, bold proclamation, and openness to miraculous signs. The message, above all, is the kerygma. The power source is the Holy Spirit. Because we need the power of the Holy Spirit to evangelize, we need a “new Pentecost” — that the flame of the Spirit be renewed within us. As we are renewed in the Spirit, we need to listen to and follow His promptings by immersing ourselves in Sacred Scripture, in Christian community, and by testing the inspirations we receive. Also, in a special way, we ought to consider the Blessed Virgin Mary our “arm-in-arm” partner in our work of evangelization, continually seeking her intercession. For she, before all other disciples of Jesus, is “overshadowed” by the Holy Spirit.

Notes and Quotes

1. When the Holy Spirit comes, he will convince the world of (Sin, Righteousness, and Judgement)
2. When the Holy Spirit comes he will increase our capacity to glorify (Jesus).
3. Through the Holy Spirit we are no longer (slaves) but (sons).
4. Pentecost tells us what is necessary for evangelization to be (fruitful).
5. At the heart of evangelization is proclaiming that Jesus is both (Lord) and (Christ).
6. Saint Peter says responding to the Gospel is to (repent) and be (baptized) for the forgiveness of your sins and be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.
7. A new Pentecost is each Catholic releasing the power given to them by their (Confirmation).
8. The seeds of renewal are planted in every (baptized heart).
9. What are three ways we can invite Our Lady to be part of our evangelization efforts?

- a. Pray the (Rosary)
- b. Study the messages of Our Lady of (Fatima)
- c. Talk to Mary and ask for her (intercession) for your evangelizing efforts

Exercise

Read the excerpt from Acts Chapter 2 below as a group, designating two people to read it aloud. The first person will read it once. Then take at least 5 minutes to pause and meditate on the Word, and then a second person will read it again. While hearing it aloud, ask the Holy Spirit to be with you and invite the Holy Spirit to come down with the same fire upon all those present as it did among the apostles 2,000 years ago.

Acts 2: The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

... All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

...

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you

crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

... Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”’

Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Homework

Go and make disciples of all nations. Live a life of holy boldness proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you and give you strength and courage to proclaim the Good News in both word and deed.

Closing Prayer — Prayer of Consecration

Leaders Note: Everyone pray this prayer together at the end of class. Tell everyone to memorize and use this prayer when they evangelize with someone who wants to “drop their nets” and follow Jesus.

God our Father, I believe that you created me out of love. In a thousand ways I have sinned against you. I repent of all of my sins. Please forgive me. Thank you for sending your Son to die for me, to save me from hell. I choose this day to renew my covenant with you and to place Jesus at the center of my heart. I surrender to Him as Lord over my whole life. I ask you now to flood my heart and soul with your Holy Spirit and to grant me the gift of new life. Give me the grace and courage to live as a missionary disciple for the rest of my days. Amen.

Completing the Certification Process

Anyone who has adequately participated in the training (*videos, activities, reading, homework, testimony report(s), etc.*) may choose to complete some additional steps to receive a certificate. There are two options. As training leader, you may discuss the options with participants and decide on one, the other, or opt to permit both.

Option 1: Onsite Exam

- Request an exam from the director of the Online School of Evangelization, Mark Hornbacher, at mark@stpaulse.com
- On the last day of the training, proctor the exam for participants who wish to apply for certification using this option
- Gather the completed exams along with the names and contact information of all those who adequately participated in the training. Also include whether they want their certificate mailed, emailed, or both. Mail to the SPSE national office at
*St Paul Street Evangelization
% Mark Hornbacher
26238 Ryan Road
Warren, MI 48091*
- SPSE will grade the exams and issue certificates to those training participants who passed. Those who fail the exam will be contacted, and may request a second chance to take an exam for certification

Option 2: Online Exam

- After the group training is complete, email Mark Hornbacher at the SPSE national office (mark@stpaulse.com) with the names and contact information of all who adequately participated in the group training
- Instruct those on the list to follow the written instructions near the end of their participants guide in order to take the final exam online and request their certificates.

Instructions:

1. Sign in or Register for an account at <https://evangelizationschool.com/>
2. Choose your partnership level (Free temporary accounts are available)
3. Under the “Resources” menu, click on “[Introduction to Evangelization Group Training](#)”
4. Click on the link for the *Introduction to Evangelization Exam*
5. Complete and pass the *Introduction to Evangelization Exam*
6. Request a certificate of completion
(We will reach out to those who fail the exam with their options)

Testimony Report

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number / Email _____

Date of Encounter _____

Encounter Details

Location _____

Time _____

People Involved _____

Witnesses _____

Summary of Encounter (use the back if needed)

Was there a conversion?

Was there a healing? If so, provide additional details

Do you have contact information for the person who was evangelized?

What follow up will be done?

What did you learn through this encounter?