

Missionary Families of Christ EVANGELIZATION TRAINING

One of our Core Values is being evangelistic and missionary. We are part of the Catholic Church which is a missionary Church. The work of evangelization is the most important work that a Christian can do.

This training is conducted annually towards the end of every year, or conversely, at the start of a new year, for all new members of MFC, i.e., those who joined MFC within the year. Its goals are twofold: (1) in general, to teach new members about evangelization and its importance in the life of a Christian, and (2) in particular, to prepare members to evangelize new people.

Schedule

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Arrival and fellowship
2:00 - 2:30	Worship
2:30 - 3:15	Talk No. 1: THE GREAT COMMISSION
3:15 - 3:45	Break
3:45 - 4:30	Talk No. 2: EVANGELIZATION IN MFC
4:30 - 5:30	Open forum Closing prayers

Resource Persons

1. Worship leader
2. Speakers
3. Senior for open forum (or at least a Unit Servant)
4. Guitarist
5. Service team

Resource Materials

1. Attendance sheets
2. Sound system
3. Tape recorder and blank tapes
4. Participants' handouts
5. Snacks (if any)

EVANGELIZATION TRAINING
TALK No. 1 : THE GREAT COMMISSION

Expanded Outline

A. Introduction.

1. When you joined MFC, you joined an evangelistic movement. We exist to proclaim the good news of salvation in Jesus to others.
 - a) In MFC you find not just a nice, comfortable, leisurely kind of Christian life, but an action-oriented one. It is outward rather than inward looking.
 - b) When you joined MFC, you joined God's army, fighting to bring people to Christ, to help establish God's kingdom on earth.
2. Evangelization proclaiming the good news of salvation, so as to lead people to a personal and living relationship with Jesus.
3. The Great Commission. Mt 28:18-20.
 - a) This is Jesus' final instruction before his ascension. He was now turning over the work that he had started to his disciples.
 - b) These are our marching orders as well.
 - * In fact, it is intended for all Christians.
 - c) We in MFC want to take seriously our call and mission to evangelize.
 - * This work is not just for the leaders, but for everyone.
 - * It is to be a way of life.

B. Why evangelize?

1. Most fundamentally, because Jesus commands us.
 - a) Jesus is not merely suggesting or encouraging, but authoritatively directing us to do so.
 - b) We need to respond out of obedience.
 - * The test of our love for the Lord is our obedience.
2. It draws us into a deeper union with Christ.
 - a) Spreading the gospel, just like prayer, fellowship, service, etc., is a crucial

life-giving ingredient of our spiritual life.

* Through it we learn how to draw closer to God, rely on His help and be led by His Spirit.

- b) As we take concern for others, our hearts are transformed into the heart of Christ.
3. It is a thankful response to God's action in our own lives.
 4. The world desperately needs the good news.
 - a) There's war, pollution, crime, divorce, loneliness, murder, poverty, etc. Human solutions to these have consistently fallen short. Only Jesus is the answer.
 - b) The Christian people are being attacked both from within and from outside the Church.
 - * There is a new paganism in the world, a growing apostasy in the Church, and greater evil than every before.
 5. This full type of Christian life is filled with excitement, challenge and joy.
 - a) An evangelistic lifestyle is essential to true self-fulfilment.
 - b) There is great personal joy in bringing Christ to others.
 6. There is involved an eternal choice for all people.
 - a) Man has free will. He is free to choose between good and evil, between life and death.
 - * In the spiritual realm, there is no middle ground. One is either for or against Christ.
 - * Others, by not choosing for God, lose by default.
 - b) We, as God's instruments, can contribute to bringing salvation to people.

C. Essential qualities.

The Great Commission is intended for all Christians.

And all Christians can become evangelizers, because what is important is not so much talent or abilities, but three basic qualities of being a Christian.

1. Faith.
 - a) The work of evangelization depends primarily upon the action of God. Ps 127:1.
 - b) Since this is God's work, we do not need to worry about our own gifts or abilities. God does not just call the qualified, but qualifies those called.
2. Love of God.
 - a) This, we have learned, is the Christian ideal. It is our reason for being.
 - b) If we love God, we would also desire to see all people fulfilling the reason for their existence, that is, to know, love and serve God. We will be eager to see His will done on earth.
 - c) As we love God practically in prayer, reading of His Word and in service, we will grow in the fruit of the Spirit. And the fruit of the Spirit amply demonstrated in the life of a Christian serves as an almost irresistible attraction to others.
3. Love for others.
 - a) God loves humankind so much that He sent His very own Son Jesus to die for the sins of mankind. God wants all people to be saved. If we love God, we will want what He wants.
 - b) We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. We want all people to experience the same renewed relationship with Christ that we are experiencing.

D. Conclusion.

1. God Himself has commissioned us to reach out to others and draw them to Himself.
2. We in MFC who have tasted the goodness of the Lord should want others to experience such as well.
3. We grow in faith, love of God and love of neighbor, indeed in the very essence of our Christianity, as we follow the Lord and be fruitful for His kingdom.

EVANGELIZATION TRAINING
TALK No. 1 : THE GREAT COMMISSION

Participant's handout

- A. The Great Commission. Mt 28:18-20
1. This is Jesus' final instruction before his ascension.
 2. It is intended for all Christians.
- B. Reasons for evangelization:
1. Jesus commands us.
 - * Jesus does not merely suggest or encourage, but authoritatively directs us to do so.
 - * We need to respond out of obedience and love.
 2. Spreading the gospel draws us into a deeper union with Christ.
 3. It is a thankful response to God's action in our own lives.
 4. The world desperately needs the good news.
 - * Many wrong and evil things happening in the world today.
 - * Human solutions have consistently fallen short.
 - * Only Jesus is the answer.
 5. An evangelistic Christian life is full of excitement, challenge and joy.
 6. An eternal choice for all is involved.
 - * We, as God's instruments, can contribute to bringing salvation to people.
- C. Essential qualities of an evangelist:
1. Faith.
 - * The work of evangelization depends primarily upon the action of God. Ps 127:1.
 2. Love for God.
 - * If we love God, we want to see His will done on earth, that is, for all people to know, love and serve Him.
 3. Love for others.
 - * If we love our neighbor as ourselves, we want them to experience the same renewed relationship with Christ that we are experiencing.

Suggested reading: "Renewing the Face of the Earth"

EVANGELIZATION TRAINING
TALK No. 2 : EVANGELIZATION IN MFC

Expanded outline

A. Introduction.

The last talk showed us the “what” and the “why” of evangelization. Now we want to look at “how” to evangelize.

B. Forms of evangelization.

There are many types or forms of evangelization:

1. Mass or proclamation evangelization.
 For example, an evangelistic rally. Elements:
 - * one-shot deal
 - * to a very large and anonymous crowd
 - * usually dominated by a known personality.

2. Random evangelization.
 - a) Short-term contact. One-shot deal. Normally done with strangers.
 - * E.g., street evangelism, or going door-to-door.
 - b) Rare for us, but God works in different ways. Be open to it.
 - * If possible, follow up. Get telephone number and address.

3. Christian entertainment.
 For example, music, drama, dance, Coffeehouse.

4. Circumstantial or everyday or environmental evangelization.
 - a) This has to do with the circumstances that we are in, with our day-to-day environment. It is done through the regular contacts of our life, with people with whom we have ongoing relationships, e.g., family, co-workers, neighbors, classmates, groupmates, etc.
 - b) We need to be ready to open up our lives, to be personal.
 - c) We need discernment. We don't throw the gospel at people the first time around.
 - * After all, we do not have to because we see these people regularly.

5. Strategic or selective evangelization.
 - a) Elements:
 - * Choose people carefully.
 - * Depends on carefully built relationships.
 - * Focus on leader types.
 - b) This is essential when starting in a new area so that potential leaders will be available to further the work of MFC.
6. Program evangelization.
 - a) Here those being evangelized are put in a situation where the gospel can be presented more systematically.
 - * E.g., Neighborhood Bible study, cursillo, LSS, CLS.
 - b) Very structured. Involves a lot of planning and logistics.
7. Relational or pastoral evangelization.
 - a) A continuous reaching out to a person, even after the person has committed his life to Christ.
 - * E.g., Household in MFC after CLS.
 - b) Evangelization is continuing work. Since the ultimate goal is a full life in Christ, then it is needed for the rest of a person's life.

C. Evangelization in MFC

1. In MFC, we do all these different types of evangelization. But the most basic method for every MFC member to carry out Christ's Great Commission is to undertake everyday or environmental evangelization.
2. Everyday evangelization is characterized by the following:
 - a) It does not necessitate going to far-off places as a missionary, but is done in the different environments we find ourselves in daily.
 - b) It does not necessitate a thorough familiarity with the Bible or Christian doctrine, but just a pure desire to share with others what God is doing in our lives.
 - c) It involves simple witnessing, often a silent witness, of our growing

relationship with God, of better relationship with our spouse, of greater peace and order in our family.

D. How do we evangelize?

1. First we need to build up a relationship.
 - * To do this, we need to begin with the place where the person is at. We need to present ourselves based on what is going to make the best connection with the person.
 - * Common interests.
 - * Not getting shocked at worldliness.
2. Earn his/her respect rather than just be liked.
 - * State our position as Christians clearly, but without being 'holier than thou' or preachy.
 - * Speak simply and directly.
 - * Relate confidently even when intimidated.
3. Be aggressive, in a non-threatening way. Take initiative in the relationship. Make time in your schedule to get together often. Be creative (e.g., have a snack, play basketball, etc.).
4. Bring him/her into a relationship with other brothers/sisters, especially with a potential peer group.
5. Do not relate functionally, but be open to having a genuine friendship developing.
6. After the relationship is in place, present the gospel to him/her. Be sensitive to timing.
7. Challenge him/her.
 - * Stress the high ideals, dedication, commitment, personal strength inherent to Christianity.
 - * Christianity is not just a good thing, but is ours to change the world.
8. Invite the person to our CLS.

E. Evangelization and the Live Christ, Share Christ (LCSC) mission

1. In this third millennium, our Church is called to the New Evangelization.
2. The LCSC mission is our response to this call. LCSC is intended to mainstream Catholic lay evangelization.

3. LCSC has three major ingredients.
 - a) The Life in Christ Seminar (LCS), a counterpart of the CLS.
 - b) The four pillars.
 - * Live Pure. Proclaiming the gospel of chastity to youth.
 - * Live the Word. Getting every Catholic into the Bible, through the Liturgical Bible Study.
 - * Live Life. Pro-life advocacy.
 - * Live Full. Our work with the poor, through the No One in Need (NONE) movement.
 - c) The Servant Leaders Formation (SeLF) program.

4. Through LCSC, MFC can do rapid, massive and worldwide evangelization, involving the Church through her parishes, but also getting into the publics (non-Church settings).

F. Conclusion.

1. We are all called to be evangelizers.

4. Through our work of evangelization, we are to live out our charism, which is evangelization founded on family renewal.

EVANGELIZATION TRAINING
TALK No. 2 : EVANGELIZATION IN MFC

Participant's Handout

- A. Forms of evangelization
1. Mass or proclamation
 2. Random
 3. Christian entertainment
 4. Circumstantial or everyday or environmental
 5. Strategic or selective
 6. Program
 7. Relational or pastoral
- B. How we evangelize in MFC
1. Basically, every MFC member ought to do everyday or environmental evangelization.
 2. How?
 - a) Build up a relationship.
 - b) Earn his respect.
 - c) Take initiative.
 - d) Bring him into a relationship with other brethren.
 - e) Be open to developing a genuine friendship.
 - f) Present the gospel.
 - g) Challenge him with the high ideals of Christianity.
 - h) Invite the couple to our CLS.
- C. The Live Christ, Share Christ (LCSC) mission.

Suggested reading: "Fishers of Men" and "The Live Christ, Share Christ Movement (2nd Edition"