



The Joy of The Gospel

Study Guide

Chapter Two - "Amid The Crisis of Communal Commitment"

In this chapter, Pope Francis speaks about the approach of a missionary disciple "nourished by the light and strength of the Holy Spirit." He then goes on to detail several challenges and temptations that a missionary disciple must navigate while doing the Church's work of evangelization. Use this chapter as a diagnostic tool. Are there challenges/temptations listed here that you have faced? Do you see evidence of these in our Church today?

1. "Some Challenges of Today's World"

- No to an Economy of Exclusion
- No to the New Idolatry of Money
- No to a Financial System which Rules Rather than Serves
- No to the Inequality which Spawns Violence
- Some Cultural Challenges
- Challenges to Inculturating the Faith
- Challenges from Urban Cultures

2. "Temptations Faced by Pastoral Workers"

- Yes to the Challenge of a Missionary Spirituality
- No to Selfishness and Spiritual Sloth
- No to a Sterile Pessimism
- Yes to the New Relationship Brought by Christ
- No to Spiritual Worldliness
- No to Warring Among Ourselves
- Other Ecclesial Challenges

"Challenges exist to be overcome! Let us be realists, but without losing our joy, our boldness and our hope filled commitment. Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of missionary vigor!"