



SAINT PAUL

STREET EVANGELIZATION

Evangelization Quick Start Guide

Did you know that a two-minute conversation with someone you have never met before can change their life forever? God provides each of us opportunities every day to walk alongside people just as Jesus did on the road to Emmaus. Pope St. Paul VI said that “the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church. Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize” (Evangelization in the Modern World, 14). This quick start guide will give you some tips for leading others to our Christian faith in the circumstances of your everyday life. While you may not follow each step exactly, in order, or use them all, it gives you tools to use. The motto of St. Paul Street Evangelization is to “listen, befriend, proclaim, and invite.” Listen and befriend that we might earn the right to be heard and show others that we genuinely care about them. Proclaim and invite that we might fulfill our part in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16–20).

Preparation

Start your day with Mass if possible and go to Confession if needed. It's important to be in a state of grace and it is hard to introduce others to Jesus if you aren't in a good relationship with Him yourself. Start your day with Mass (if possible) and go to Confession if needed. Also, pray that God would set up divine appointments for you to share the Good News with others. Pay attention if any names, words, people, or images come to mind. God will sometimes give us insights into those He wants us to evangelize (cf. 1 Cor 12:8).

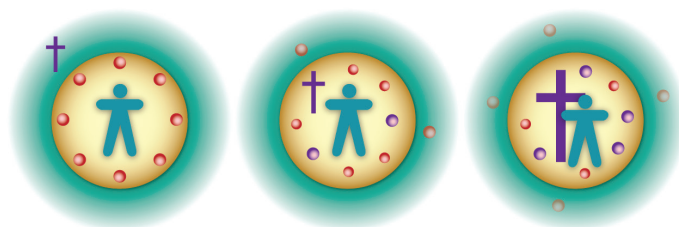
Handing out sacramentals is a good way to break the ice. Get a rosary pouch or something similar to store your extra medals and rosaries. Use these as conversation-starters and tangible reminders of God's love.

Step 1: Ice Breakers & Relational Ministry

- Be joyful, smile. This can help put them (and you) at ease. Pray for God to relieve any anxiety or nervousness you may feel.
- As the Holy Spirit nudges you, break the ice, introduce yourself, and give away a sacramental. “Hi there! My name is Adam. I'm out running errands. I just felt inspired to give you this Miraculous Medal. I give a lot of them away. Do you have one? No? Here you go.”
- Tell the story of the Miraculous Medal from our holy cards and share one with them. Instead of vocabulary like “Blessed Virgin” which may be unfamiliar, say “Jesus' mom, Mary.” Ask questions like, “Do you need a miracle in your life?”
- You can use this method for any kind of sacramental. The Rosary is another example. “Hi there! My name is Adam. I felt inspired to give you this Rosary. It's a meditation on the life of Jesus using the Bible. I've found it comforting to meditate within my own life. Do you have a church you go to?”
- Use this moment to distinguish if the need here is for pre-evangelization or evangelization. You may have the opportunity to plant a seed and build trust. Or you may have the opportunity to pluck fruit for the harvest. Listen & befriend. Be light hearted, use good humor, and be confident (Matthew 11:30).

Step 2: Proclaim

- The goal of each encounter is, first, for the person to know that they are loved and, more importantly, that Jesus is calling them to faith in Him. Jesus Christ is God and is a real person who loves them and wants to save them from Hell. A decision to repent of their sins and to follow Jesus as His disciple is the most important decision they can make in their life. Pope Benedict XVI said “Your great task in evangelization is therefore to propose a personal relationship with Christ as the key to complete fulfillment” (Address to Filipino Episcopal Conference, February 18, 2011).
- Say “Can I give you one good reason that I (believe in God) (follow Jesus) (go to Mass) (go to Confession) (etc.)?” Give your One Good Reason. For more on this, see the *One Good Reason* section below.
- Share your testimony as part of sharing the Gospel. You can use the relationship diagram example.
 - **Circle 1:** “You know, I experienced some of the same problems when I put (drugs, sex, money, pride, etc.) at the center of my life. But then I realized all of that wasn't making me happy, no matter how much of it I had. It was ruining me.”
 - **Circle 2:** “Jesus surprisingly came into my life one day and my priorities started changing. I started to discover who Jesus really is. I realized that the path I was on was going to lead me to Hell.”
 - **Circle 3:** “So, I finally gave my heart to Jesus. I repented of my sins and committed to following Him as His disciple. I joined the Church He founded, was baptized and received the Sacraments. Since then, I have experienced a joy and peace in my life that's indescribable. It's changed everything. Does that sound like something you want in your own life?”



Step 3: Prayer Ministry

- After they answer, say “Thank you for sharing. If you have 30 more seconds I would love to say a quick prayer for you.” Tell a story to build faith. “You know, sometimes when we pray with people they experience God’s peace in their life.”
- Pray in simple ways. Give people the impression that you are going to pray for them, and that they don’t have to say anything (unless you have them repeat after you in the simple ways below). They should just receive from God. Limit prayers to 20-30 seconds. Leave room for the Holy Spirit.

Prayer Examples:

- **Prayer of Surrender:** “God, I believe that you created me out of love. I have sinned against you. I repent of all of my sins. Please forgive me. Thank you for sending Jesus to die for me, to save me from Hell. I choose this day to place Jesus at the center of my heart. I surrender to Him as Lord over my whole life. Amen.”
- **Prayer of Intercession:** “Jesus, I ask you to be with Julie during this difficult period of her life. Help her find a job so she can provide for her children, give her freedom from anxiety and peace of mind. Provide her with friends who love her and will keep her company through the storms in life.”
- **Prayers for Healing:** “Come Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus I ask for Mark’s knees to be healed so he can continue working on the construction site. Please heal him, Lord.”
- **Prayer for Forgiveness (if the person is open to it):** “In the name of Jesus, I forgive _____ for _____.”
- **Prayer for Repentance (if the person is open to it):** “I repent of the sin of _____. I renounce and reject it. I am sorry for offending you, God, please forgive me.”

Step 4: Post-Prayer Announcement & Invitation

- Prayer is an encounter with Jesus. The experience of being prayed for provides actual graces for conversion. After prayer, ask the person how they are feeling. Announce that Jesus is with them and desires a relationship with them. Offer to pray a prayer of consecration with them if you haven’t already done so.
- It’s okay if they don’t believe yet, if they didn’t experience anything in prayer, and if they have more questions. Tell them that you want to follow up and have the chance to sit down and talk about life. Ask for their phone number and email, and give yours to them. Follow where the Holy Spirit leads you in a conversation.

Sharing the Gospel:

- **Good News:** Jesus loves you and has a plan for your life (John 3:16).
- **Bad News:** Sin separates us from God and leads to Hell (Romans 3:23; 6:23).
- **Good News:** Jesus died, rose again, appeared to the 12 and more than 500 witnesses. We are saved by faith in Jesus (Romans 5:8). He is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). He restores our relationship with the Father.
- **Invitation:** We must receive Christ in faith for our salvation. Christ established the Catholic Church as the means of receiving God’s grace and life in our soul (Ephesians 2:8; Revelation 3:20). The Gospel demands a response. We must put our faith in Jesus to get to Heaven.

One Good Reason:

One good reason is a fruitful method of apologetics. After first listening to their story, we respond with “Can I give you one good reason why...” and get their permission to share more. Below are a few examples. You can read about these in more depth in our full training.

Can I give you one good reason why...

- **“I go to Mass / go to Confession / read the Bible?”**
(Answer: Would I love my spouse if I didn’t spend time with them? No way! Just like we spend time with family, we need to spend time with God to tell Him that we love Him. The best way to do that is by going to Church.)
- **“I am a Catholic Christian?”**
(Answer: The Catholic Church is the one Church founded by Jesus. He gave the keys of the kingdom to Peter as a visible Church. The Church is infallible in matters of faith and morals.)
- **“I believe in Jesus?”**
(Answer: The Gospel itself serves as the answer to this question, along with your testimony and how Jesus has changed your heart.)
- **“I believe in God?”**
(Answer: If I found a pocket watch on a beach would any reasonable person believe that pocket watch came together on its own by evolution over billions of years? No way. It has a creator. What about our DNA, the language of the body?)

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Learn more about how to use this guide at: www.streetevangelization.com and www.evangelizationschool.com

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