

LENT
2016

SHARING JESUS

Talk 1: Sharing Good News

Quote 1: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." *Matthew 28:19-20*

Quote 2: "The reason the Church exists is to evangelize." *Pope Paul VI*

Quote 3: "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness, and loneliness ... I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy." *Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 1*

Quote 4: "Evangelization is the proclamation of Christ and his gospel by word and testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ's command." *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Quote 5: "If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light, and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life. More than by fear of going astray, my hope is that we will be moved by the fear of remaining shut up within structures which give us a false sense of security, within rules which make us harsh judges, within habits which make us feel safe, while at our door people are starving and Jesus does not tire of saying to us: 'Give them something to eat.'" *Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 49*

Small Group Guidelines

Each week we'll review what we learned in the teaching and also talk about how things have been going since the last week we've met. This is an opportunity to support one another in growing in our relationship with the Lord. No one should feel on the spot, no one should feel stupid, or try to look impressive! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who want to grow in our relationship with him and others.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What was one significant point of Fr. Matt's homily for you personally?
- 2) In the past what ways have you shared the good news with others and what was the result?
- 3) How would you define the mission of the Church and what do you see as your role in it?
- 4) Are you more comfortable using words to share the gospel or letting your lifestyle speak for it? What drawbacks happen if you only take one or the other approach?
- 5) What practical steps can we take to help others know God?