

LENT  
2016

# SHARING JESUS

## Talk 2: Sharing an Invitation

Quote 1: "Salvation has come, and by some strange and wonderful plan of God, we are its messengers! We have been sent by God himself with the best message ever communicated, and our job is to carry that good news not to a particular nation, but to every creature and country in the world." *Fr. Tom Forrest, Move It Out!*

Quote 2: "The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades." *Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 2*

Quote 3: "I invite all Christians, everywhere at this moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord. The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: 'Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more ... I need you. Save me once again, Lord.'" *Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 3*

Quote 4: "In the long run, is there any other way of handing on the gospel than by transmitting to another person one's experience of faith?" *Pope Paul VI, On Evangelization in the Modern World, 46*

Quote 5: "This is the essence of witnessing—simply sharing your personal experiences regarding the Lord. In a courtroom, a witness is not expected to argue the case, prove the truth, or press for a verdict; that is the job of the attorneys. Witnesses simply report what happened. You may not be a Bible scholar, but you are the authority of your life, and it's hard to argue with personal experience." *Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life*

Quote 6: "Evangelization will never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit."  
*Pope Paul VI, On Evangelization in the Modern World*

### Small Group Questions

- 1) What was a significant point from the homily for you personally?
- 2) Identify people and events that God used to help you come to faith in Jesus. What role did each play? Who cultivated your curiosity? Who explained the gospel? Who invited you to make a personal decision to accept Jesus into your life?
- 3) What stumbling blocks, fears, or limitations (real or imagined) do you see in your life that prevent you from personally sharing your faith?
- 4) Have your desires and attitudes towards evangelization begun to change? In your past did you see evangelism as a duty of a joy? How can you change your perception?
- 5) If you were going to make a prayer list of people in your life to pray for who would you include? Who in your life does not know Jesus? Who is a non-practicing Catholic? Who is someone who needs the love of Jesus in their life?