

# Evangelization With Power

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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In 1991, a gathering of bishops, priests, lay people held a 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Council at the San Carlos Pastoral Complex to assess the condition of the Philippine church and identify issues that need to be addressed. One of the observations was that the church is highly “*sacramentalized*” and not “*evangelized*.” The same observation continues today because of the refusal of many to be catalysts for change, for renewal and ignited service. By virtue of our baptism, we are all evangelizers. This gives us the authority to inspire others as we walk in faith.

## 1. Evangelization has three core elements:

- 1.1. “Martur” - witnessing
- 1.2. “Koinonia” - communion
- 1.3. “Diaconia” – service

They are all Inter-related. We cannot commune with one another without showcasing our faith and the good news of our salvation.

## 2. **WITNESSING** is the simplest element. All we have to do is to live our faith in our day-to-day activities. We should not allow our faith to be compromised.

- 2.1. To witness, we do not need to be famous or rich. We will be humbled when a simple act inspires another. They will pay it forward.
- 2.2. Let our witnessing be as natural as breathing by practicing it all the time.
- 2.3. Even with good intentions, our witnessing should NOT be imposed on others.

## 3. **KOINONIA** means in communion with God's heart. A group of people together does not necessarily mean communion. Only God can tell if we have true communion. Where can the heart God be found? It is in the family, in the community, and in the church.

- 3.1. Jesus communed and empathized with the centurion when He did not have to.
- 3.2. People who are truly living in communion should be touching lives by bringing people to Jesus, spreading love, peace, justice.

3.3. To be effective evangelizers, we ourselves should be continuously evangelized; we must be enriched by teachings that highlight our faith.

3.4. Communion with God will bring us genuine communion with one another. We must address our own broken-ness as new challenges will always be there.

## 4. **Diakonia or service** means our minds and hearts are sincere and wholehearted.

4.1. Every day, we make choices and prepare ourselves to serve. Lay people are in the frontline of evangelization.

4.2. Service has many forms. Let us pray for the service/gift where we will be most effective and helpful. We must be on fire to be able to inspire (Pope Francis). There is a built-in capacity that's just waiting to be ignited. The human spirit can endure in the name of faith, love, and following the steps of Jesus..

4.3. Do not lose hope or be despaired. The Lord knows what to do. Let us just do our part with love, faith, and hope.

4.4. In serving, let us also take care of ourselves. We cannot serve fully if we get incapacitated physically or otherwise. Listen to our body's needs – for rest, food, recreation, to be alone to pray/reflect and to be with others.

**Conclusion:** We are all evangelizers. But we need to be evangelized continuously ourselves. Let us start with simple projects with utmost sincerity, love and compassion. Let us paint how that love brought about change, renewal, new priorities, new interests, and a new level of service.

## Reflection:

1. How can you strengthen your evangelization efforts in 2024?
2. What will you change to level-up your service to others and to the Community?

### SCRIBES Ministry:

Transcribed by Jo Advincula

<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/>

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