

# Disciples on the Way Overview

Bishop David L. Ricken, DD, JCL



## What is Evangelization?

### What does the word “evangelization” mean?

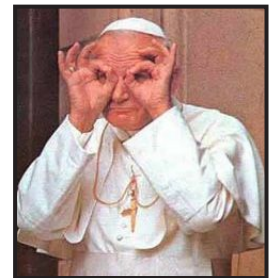
- The word “evangelism” comes from the Greek word *euangelizomai*, which literally means “to bring the Good News.”
- The Good News that we are bringing to the world is not only the message of Jesus Christ but the person of Jesus Christ who desires a personal relationship with each one of us.



Liz Lemon Swindle | Artist

### The Church exists in order to evangelize:

“Evangelization is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection.” – Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, #14



Pope John Paul II

## What is the New Evangelization?

### What’s “new” in the New Evangelization?

“Evangelization can be new in its ardor, methods, and expression.”  
– Pope John Paul II, *The Task of the Latin American Bishops*



## I.) Disciples on the Way – Discover Jesus

Meet Jesus and be His Friend.

### A Personal Encounter with the Saving Love of Jesus

“The primary reason for evangelizing is the love of Jesus which we have received, the experience of salvation which urges us to ever greater love of him.” – Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, #264



### What does the prayer life of a disciple look like?

“It is clear that it is not just the recitation of prayers at Sunday Mass that signifies a person who has a quality prayer life, although this is certainly an important part of a disciple’s prayer life. Rather, a disciple of Jesus is someone who is a good friend of Jesus and spends some time alone with the Lord in prayer every day.”  
– Bishop David L Ricken, *Teach My People to Pray*

## NOTES

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## II.) Disciples on the Way – Discipleship Formation (Follow Jesus/Worship Jesus)

Become His disciple by loving and learning from Him. Become engaged in the Church and the life of discipleship.

### **Introduction: A Disciple is the Instrument of the New Evangelization**

“Before one can evangelize, one must be evangelized. Before one can disciple others, one must be a disciple.”

#### **What is a disciple?**

- The word disciple comes from the Greek word *mathetes* meaning pupil/student of the master. It is an apprenticeship in faith.
- A disciple is one who follows Jesus, loves Him, wants to learn from Him, be with Him and share Him with others.
- A disciple is one who is baptized, confirmed and who practices the faith joyfully.



**A disciple is one who accompanies and is accompanied by other followers of Jesus.**

### III.) Disciples on the Way – Share Jesus

Become a Missionary Disciple sent out to others: especially those closest to you – family, friends, associates, those in our workplace, our neighborhoods, our communities.



James Tissot | Artist

“Mission is at once a passion for Jesus and a passion for his people.” – (EG, #268)

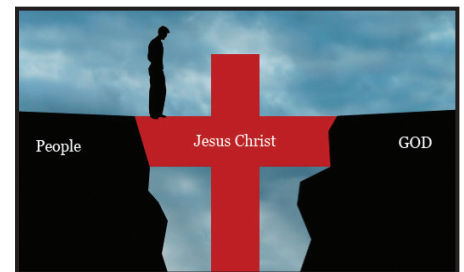
### **Kerygma – The Content of the New Evangelization**

#### **What is the kerygma?**

- Kerygma (from the Greek: *keryssein* meaning “to proclaim” and *keryx* meaning “herald”).
- Kerygma refers to the initial and essential preaching, announcement or proclamation of the Gospel message.
- The word appears in the Gospel of Matthew 12:41, Luke 11:32 and in the Letters of St. Paul numerous times (Rom 16:25, 1 Cor 1:21, 2:4, 15:14, 2 Tim 4:17 and Titus 1:3).
- Kerygma is the heart of the Gospel, the core message of the Christian faith which all believers are called to proclaim.

#### **The Kerygma**

“On the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: ‘Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.’” – (EG, #164)



### **NOTES**

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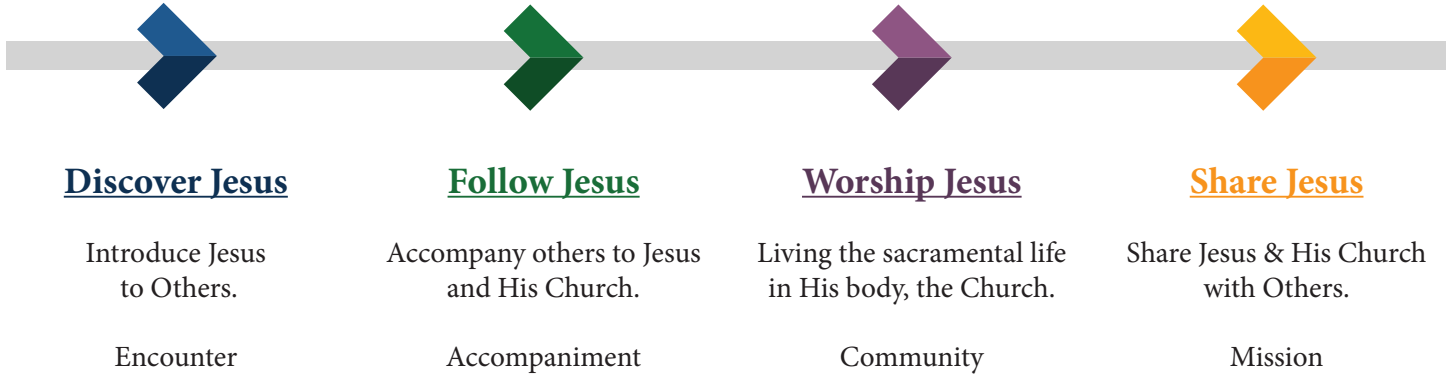
Diocese of Green Bay

## Our Journey Together as Disciples

### From Baptism to Discipleship

“In all the baptized, from first to last, the sanctifying power of the Spirit is at work, impelling us to evangelization... All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization, and it would be insufficient to envisage a plan of evangelization to be carried out by professionals while the rest of the faithful would simply be passive recipients.” – (EG; #119, #120)

## Missionary Discipleship Formation: Diocese of Green Bay



### Prayer of Discipleship

Loving God,  
I thank you for choosing me to be your disciple  
and for the gift of your Son, Jesus.  
Help me proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel  
by word and by deed today and every day.  
Open my heart to the outcast, the forgotten,  
the lonely, the sick and the poor.  
Grant me the courage to think,  
to choose and to live as a Christian,  
joyfully obedient to God.  
Amen.

### NOTES

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**Vision**

We are missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God.

**Mission**

As friends and followers of Jesus,  
we are devoted to fostering households and communities of discipleship  
through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church.

***Communities of Discipleship:***

Discover Jesus.

Follow Jesus.

Worship Jesus.

Share Jesus with others.

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