

PILLAR II: EVANGELIZATION AND YOUTH

"Missionary disciples accompany missionary disciples." Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 173

INTRODUCTION TO PILLAR II

In order to evangelize others, we must allow God to evangelize us and to seek to deepen our own relationship with Him every day. Our communion with God gives us the grace to model discipleship to those we are accompanying. In turn, this grace enables us to encourage young people to share their journey of faith with their families, their friends and communities, to themselves become disciples of Christ spreading the Gospel wherever they go.

STEP 1: OPENING PRAYER

All participants can pray together the following prayer. At the end, spend a few minutes in silence.

Lord Jesus, [...] your Church turns her attention to all the young people of the world. We pray that they might boldly take charge of their lives, aim for the most beautiful and profound things of the life and always keep their hearts unencumbered. Accompanied by wise and generous guides, help them respond to the call you make to each of them, to realize a proper plan of life and achieve happiness.

Keep their hearts open to dreaming great dreams and make them concerned for the good of others Like the Beloved Disciple, may they stand at the foot of the Cross, to receive your Mother as a gift from you. May they be witness to your Resurrection and be aware that they are at their side as they joyously proclaim you as Lord, Amen. ¹

STEP 2: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "EVANGELIZATION"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 3: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- What are you doing to grow spiritually, personally each day?
- What 2-3 words describe your prayer life?
- What does giving an authentic testimony mean to you?
- How is your ministry flowing from your own daily encounter with God?

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/prayers/documents/papa-francesco_preghiere_20170408_giovani.html



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STEP 4: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "EVANGELIZATION IN COMMUNITY"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 5: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- How can youth ministry make a positive impact on the families of young people?
- How can you include family in youth ministry?
- How can you encourage teens and parents to talk about faith?

STEP 6: WATCH THE VIDEO ENTITLED "MARIA'S TESTIMONY"

Encourage the participants to take simple notes during the video.

STEP 7: REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Lead the participants in a group discussion:

- Describe your own experience as a youth in the Church.
- What are your hopes about being involved in youth ministry?
- What are your concerns about being involved in youth ministry?

STEP 8: CLOSING PRAYER

Lead all participants in the following prayer:

Lord you left your Mother in our midst that she might accompany us. May she take care of us and protect us on our journey, in our hearts, in our faith. May she make us disciples like herself, missionaries like herself. May she teach us to go out onto the streets. May she teach us to step outside ourselves.... May she, by her meekness, by her peace, show us the way. ²

Lord, we entrust to you our work in Youth Ministry. May the youth see and experience the Christ in each of us. May we decrease so that you may increase. May you be glorified.

Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death Amen.

 $^{^2} https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2013/july/documents/papa-francesco_20130725_gmg-argentini-rio.html$