

The Heart of a Disciple: Part II - Living the Gospel and Sharing it with Others

- We live our faith from the inside out
 - Cultivating a life of prayer, seeking ongoing conversion of heart
 - We draw upon the graces of the Church to grow in faith, knowledge and experience
 - We look for practical ways that we can share our lives through service

- We engage the world with the Light of Christ
 - Recognize that people are always watching! They are looking at our behaviors
 - Do we mean what we say, and say what we mean?
 - Does the message we convey inspire, uplift and foster life?
 - NOTE: a great measure is the Fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22)
 - Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control

- We invite others to the experience the Good News we have
 - Our Witness will speak much more loudly than our words...our example matters!
 - And if we make a colossal mistake...confess it and seek reparation! This also speaks to others

- Inviting others is more about God's timeline than our expectations
 - We are called to invite; everyone has the freedom to choose
 - Some invitations are really about planting a seed; it might take some time to be acted upon
 - Some invitations are accepted because of the work of others; someone else planted the seed!
 - An invitation is freely offered; Nagging is pressure that raises defenses

- Your own personal testimony is crucial!
 - Why do you: follow Christ...go to Mass...live as a practicing Catholic?
 - If you can answer these questions, then you have something to share with others who are searching
 - Testimony:
 - Begins with a moment in your past...what were you like and what did you face?
 - Describes an encounter with God/faith...what happened?
 - Explains how you have changed because of the encounter...how are you different now?
 - Leads to an invitation where you ask if someone would like to encounter God

- NOTES

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