

## Discipleship and Individual Evangelization

In our daily life we could easily perceive the need for evangelization: in the world that worships power and money every day we see people dying without knowing Jesus and the saving power of His Gospel. With the enthusiasm to participate in the mission of evangelization, we also encounter the need to master a solid methodology to effectively deliver the Gospel message to more people around us, for it says, "There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved (Act 4:12)." In the following dialogue two disciples are learning the meaning and work of individual evangelization.

- A. What is individual evangelization?
- B. It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that the individual Christian preaches on Lord Jesus Christ, so that the hearers would come to believe in Christ, receive Christ as the Lord in his life and join the faith community to serve Him.
- A. A great job indeed. But what type of person could make an ideal individual evangelist?
- B. The individual must be a good cooperater of the Holy Spirit whom he follows faithfully, for in evangelization the main character is the Holy Spirit. We also need to prepare ourselves to become qualified evangelists: first, we must have a clear concept of being saved by Christ. It is only through the character He has bestowed us in baptism that we are able to love God and defend the dignity of humanity. Secondly, we need to live in the state of grace to keep ourselves in the light of the Holy Spirit so as to receive the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit. Thirdly, we need to understand the power of God's Words and learn the passages of Bible by heart.
- A. But what type of people we should approach in evangelization and how to approach them?

- B. Just follow our Lord Jesus' example: conversing with the Samaritan women at the well (Jn 4:1-42) He approached the sinner, the person of different culture, the ordinary person who knows nothing about him. Talking with Nicodemus (Jn 3:1-15) He approached the intellectual, the Pharisee, the Jewish officer. He always started by picking up the topic that concerned the person in conversation most and gave the answer that guides them to God.
- A. But what are we going to preach since our faith is such a rich and immense subject?
- B. We can start with people's most concerned topics, such as God and His existence. Generally there are five Mysteries that we can evangelize on:

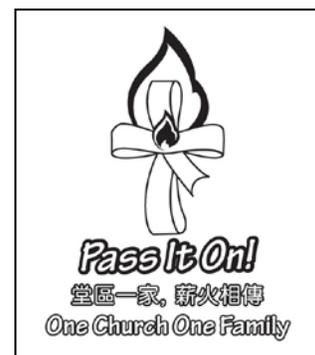
**The Mystery of God:** His creation, mercy and holiness.

**The Mystery of Humanity:** the sinful nature of men separates humanity from God, a tragedy for humanity.

**The Mystery of Jesus Christ:** the Incarnation, His redemptive Passion, Death and Resurrection and His second coming.

**The Mystery of Salvation:** the need to repent, to receive Christ as the Lord in one's life and the fruit of being saved.

**The Mystery of Grace:** Christ's Passion has earned us the grace to become God's children to receive the eternal life, peace and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.



- A. I can't wait to start my individual evangelization now.
  - B. We still need to take care of a few things before we go: during the evangelization we need to maintain a warm and polite manner, without arguing or forcing people to agree with us immediately. We should proclaim the Church teachings on Scripture and Tradition without adding too much of our personal opinions.
- A. Great advices! Now let's roll!

## Reflection Questions

We would like to encourage you to participate in the discussion on discipleship and renewed life by providing at least one Biblical passage that relates to the answer of the following questions:

1. What is NOT individual evangelization?
2. What are the obstacles of individual evangelization?

Your correct answers will be rewarded with gifts and printed out in the next issue. So please take this opportunity to send to or discuss the answers with the people at the welcome desk or in the feedback box at the back of the church. Thank you very much for participating!

Please visit our EV Web page:

1. Go to church web site at [www.transfigurationnyc.org](http://www.transfigurationnyc.org)
2. Click 'Evangelization Group' under the pull down menu 'Parish Life'.



## Time Bank

- Free to join, no age limit.
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## *The Bible passage relating to the questions in March issue of discipleship and Holiness:*

- a. **Why holiness is so important in discipleship?**
  - **Because God is holy:** "...be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, for it is written, "Be holy because I am holy." (1Peter: 1-15)
  - **Because Christ is holy:** "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin." (Heb 4:15)
- b. **How am I going to practice the Christian holiness in life?**
  - **The holiness of mind:** "Do everything without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine like lights in the world." (Phil 2:14-15)
  - **The holiness of language:** "Avoid profane and silly myths. Train yourselves for devotion." (1Tim 4:7)
  - **The holiness of behavior:** "This is the will of God, your holiness: that you refrain from immorality.... For God did not call us to impurity but to holiness." (1Thess 4:3, 7)



聖劉方濟 1607~1648  
St. Francis Fernandez de Capillas

### Our Role Model of Discipleship

**Francis Fernández de Capillas** (August 15, 1607 – January 15, 1648) was a Spanish missionary who had the zeal for serving the Lord since childhood. After college he entered the Dominican Order and later was ordained a priest. He always cherished the dream of bringing the Good News to China. In 1642 he was sent to serve in Fujian where he endured the prejudice, hatred and harsh treatment for the sake of evangelization. During the religious persecution he was thrown into the

prison where he suffered from severe torture, beating, hunger and freezing cold, nevertheless with great patience and a high Spirit of faith. He was beheaded in FuAn on January 15, 1648, the first Catholic martyr in China. People in FuAn call him Fr. Liu, taking him as the patron of the land. He was canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 1, 2000 as one of the 120 Martyrs of China.

## 門徒與個人福傳

在我們的日常生活中，會常常面對個人福傳的需要。在這個追求權力和財富的世界中，每天都有不少人從來沒有聽到福音便死去。作為門徒，有效地掌握福傳方法，結更多福傳的果實是非常重要的。正如聖經所說：除他以外，無論憑誰，決無救援，因為在天下人間，沒有賜下別的名字，使我們賴以得救的(宗 4:12)。在以下的對話中兩個門徒正學習個人福傳的意義。

**甲：**個人福傳是什麼？

**乙：**個人福傳是以聖神的能力去宣揚耶穌基督的福音，使其他人能因此信靠基督，接受耶穌基督作為生命中的天主，並在教會團體內為主服務。

**甲：**真是非常有意義，我們要怎樣才能有效地做到個人福傳呢？

**乙：**我們一定要成為聖神的合作者和追隨者，因為聖神是福傳的主角，而我們則要準備自己作一個好的傳道員。首先，我們要認知天主在我們身上的救恩，我們怎樣透過領洗而得到重生，之後我們才能愛主愛人。另外我們要過聖潔的生活，唯有內心不斷被聖神光照的人，才能與天主有正常的關係，並得到聖神的引導和幫助，而成為有能力的見證者。最後我們要熟識天主的話語，背誦聖經。

**甲：**我們應該向什麼人作福傳呢？怎樣接觸他們呢？

**乙：**就讓我們學習耶穌。祂對撒瑪利亞婦人(若 4:1-42)，對象是罪人、不同文化的人、平民對祂毫無認識的人。耶穌對尼苛德摩時(若 3:1-15)，祂的對象是知識份子、法利塞人、猶太人的官員。祂總是依照接觸的對象，以他們有興趣的話題開始，引導他們認識天主。

**甲：**我們的教義是何等的豐富和高深，我們應該向人傳授什麼的教義呢？

**乙：**我們應該從別人最有興趣的話題開始，通常我們可以從五大奧中找到話題：

- **天主的奧秘：**祂的創造、慈愛和聖潔。
- **關於人的奧秘：**人的罪使人遠離天主和人的悲劇。
- **基督的奧秘：**基督的降生、為世人受死、復活和光榮再來。
- **救恩的奧秘：**向主悔改、接受基督和得救的果實。
- **得救福份的奧秘：**基督的救贖使我們的原罪得到赦免，使我們能成為天主的子女，享有永生、天主的平安和活在聖神中。

**甲：**我真要立即開始個人福傳了。

**乙：**我們還要注意幾點：待人要有禮貌；態度要平和親切；不要跟對方辯論；不要強詞奪理和硬要說服對方；要清楚解說五大奧秘的內容，而盡量少加自己的說明。

**甲：**好建議，就讓我們開始吧！



聖劉方濟 1607~1648

St. Francis Fernandez de Capillas

### 中國聖人劉方濟 (1607 - 1648)

聖劉方濟司鐸，全名方濟格嘉彼來。1607年生於西班牙。8月15日受洗取名方濟。他從小熱心事主。大學畢業後，棄俗修道，入道明會。1632年6月在馬尼拉晉昇鐸品。他渴望到中國傳教。後來被派到中國的福建省。1642年4月到中國，為傳揚聖教，受盡了外教人的難為，仇視，歷盡千辛萬苦。順治5年，在閩東掀起教難。劉神父被捕入獄。經嚴刑拷打後，又以飢餓和寒冷傷害他。劉神父為主忍耐，無怨無尤，神樂非常，不惜以身殉道。1648年1月15日，在福安湖山被斬首殉道。福安地區的信友奉他為主保。劉神父是西方傳教士中，第一位在中國為主殉道的烈士。

天主聖三聖母會福傳中國小組

## 上期討論题目的相關聖經章節:

### 門徒與更新生命

#### 1. 作為門徒, 為什麼聖潔這樣重要?

- 因為天主是聖潔的：但要像那召叫你們的聖者一樣，在一切生活上聖的，因為經上記載：『你們應是聖的，因為我是聖的。』（伯前 1:15-16）
- 因為基督是聖潔的：因為我們所有的，不是一位不能同情我們弱點的大司祭，而是一位在各方面與我們相似，受過試探的，只是沒有罪過。（希 4:15）

#### 2. 怎樣能夠過基督徒的聖潔生活呢？

- 聖潔的思想：你們做一切事，總不可抱怨，也不可爭論，好使你們成為無可指摘和純潔的，在乖僻敗壞的世代中，做天主無瑕的子女；在世人中你們應放光明。（斐 2:14-15）
- 聖潔的語言：至於凡俗和老婦的無稽的傳說，務要躲避！但要在虔敬上操練自己。（第前 4:7）
- 聖潔的行為：天主的旨意就是要你們成聖，要你們戒絕邪淫，……因為天主召叫我們不是為不潔，而是為成聖。（得前 4:3, 7）

## 討論問題

我們在此鼓勵大家對本主題作出討論和回應，如大家能找到聖經章節來回答以下任何一條問題，將可得到精美福傳禮品一份，閣下可到聖堂後面的接待處領取或把答案連同聯絡資料放入位於聖堂後面的福傳意見箱內。歡迎大家踴躍參加！

1. 什麼不是個人福傳？
2. 個人福傳有什麼阻礙？

### 請瀏覽我們的福傳網頁：

1. 請先前往聖堂網站：  
[www.transfigurationnyc.org](http://www.transfigurationnyc.org)
2. 選擇中文
3. 在“堂區生活”的下拉目錄中點擊“福傳小組”。



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- 享有購物優惠。

歡迎各教友善用天主賞賜的各種恩寵和才能去服務社區，以行動來回應天主的召叫。

報名表格可於聖堂後面的接待處索取。