

“I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.” (Jeremiah 24:7) God has promised that He will be there for anyone who returns to Him. He has open arms and is waiting for His people to come home to Him. With the help of God, young Catholics have the power to bring family and friends back to the Church through evangelization and scripture. Many people who have turned away from religion do not know or understand that God is love and His love is unconditional. Young Catholics can use the Word of God, their own experiences, and prayer to encourage faith in others.

In Chapter 28 of Matthew, Jesus gives His Great Commission. He says “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus is telling us that we should go out and encourage faith in others. This can apply to those who have lost faith as well. God will be with us as we embark on this journey of returning someone to the Church.

The Bible is our greatest weapon on this journey. There are thousands of scripture passages that can be used to encourage faith in others. God has proved His love for us through His son and His acceptance. Jesus invites every person into His home through scripture. Even as young Catholics, we can explain the Word of God and use it to evangelize.

Empathy is a key factor when approaching someone who has fallen away from the Church. As young Catholics in today’s world, we have all doubted God and or our faith. We can use our own experiences and empathize with those who have turned away from religion. We can tell them that they are not alone and answer any questions that they have. It might be scary going

back to the faith and thinking others will judge you. It is very important to think of their feelings and understand where their ideas are coming from.

Humans often have a difficult time changing their way of thinking. It can be hard for young Catholics to persuade adults who are set with their ideas. Sometimes all we can do is pray for them. Prayer is a strong spiritual weapon and you can pray for faith in someone at any age. Although it is hard to see direct results, God is always listening to our prayers and answering them in His ways.

Jesus made evangelization our mission when He gave the Great Commission. No one is too young to spread the Word of God. With God by our side, we can use His Word and our own experiences to bring people back to the faith. Prayer and the Bible will be our guides as well. It is not an easy task, but it can be accomplished.