

Evangelization

By: Laura Janisse

First, we have to do some digging. Why do we bring people back to the faith? We bring people back to the faith so that they can be with God and be happy. If we want to get to heaven some day, we need to know God and love him. In John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father except through me." This verse means that to be able to reach heaven, to see the Father, we need to see Jesus and believe in him to get there. For other people to believe in God and get to heaven we must ask this question: "How can young Catholics evangelize our faith to family and friends who have turned away from religion, encourage them to return to the church and embrace the sacraments?" With this question in mind, getting to heaven is our most important goal and to do that we must evangelize people so that they can get to heaven and be happy.

The first thing that we need to do is invite. Inviting people to church or other faith filled activities is the first step to evangelize someone. This can be hard to do because the person might not have been to church in a long time, and they feel embarrassed or ashamed. Again, inviting them is very important and you have to start somewhere. As you invite them, you have to lay it on the table slowly. If they say no, then you have to know to never give up on them. You have to believe that God will come into their hearts and get them to say yes. The more you invite them, the more likely they will say yes.

Another way to evangelize someone is to pray for them. Sometimes, people won't accept your invitation, so the best thing to do is to pray for them. You want to keep trying to persuade them to become Catholic, yes, but praying and putting it in God's hands is very important too. In doing so, we must remind ourselves that God is almighty and that he can do all things, so he will change the person's heart and have them believe in him. Just praying for them can do miracles. God will enter their heart and nudge them towards what is right. You can pray for their healing and acceptance, that they accept that God is always there for them and that without him you can go nowhere.

The final thing that we can do to evangelize someone is to tell them about God. Tell them things from the bible, and things that are in the present. Trying to

persuade them to believe in God is no easy task, but it is very important. We can talk about Eucharist Miracles that have been proven to be true by scientists that didn't even believe in God! We can tell them that God is real and how he has worked in so many people's lives. Tell them that without God we are lost sheep, wandering in the wilderness, waiting for Jesus, our shepherd, to find us and bring us home.

There are so many more ways to evangelize someone, but those three are the most important. That brings us back to our question: "How can young Catholics evangelize to people to bring them back to the faith?" Well, we can bring people back to the faith by inviting, praying, and telling them that there is a God who watches over us all. He is a God who can do everything. He is almighty and all powerful. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." Revelations 1:8