

An Evangelization Examen

1. **Do I see God as the primary agent of Evangelization?**
Does my approach – openness to God, prayer, good liturgy, spirit of renewal – demonstrate my belief that it is God’s power, and not simply my technique or effort, which is transforming and saving the world?
2. **Do I see Evangelization as everyone’s responsibility?**
Do I see responsibility residing chiefly in a few leaders (priests, sisters, brothers, and official agencies) or essentially in each and every member of the Church?
3. **Do I communicate God’s love?**
Do the people I relate to (especially the unchurched) experience me as a warm, cheerful, compassionate mediator of God’s goodness and saving grace?
4. **Is total human betterment part of my mission?**
Have I assimilated the Church’s growing awareness of the link between evangelization and human liberation? What programs for social betterment have I undertaken for those I minister to?
5. **Do I respect other traditions?**
When dealing with people of other beliefs, do I affirm their basic goodness as created in God’s image? Do I seek to learn from them? Do I respectfully study their language, their cultural heritage, and their values? Do I judge them by their standards (insight) or merely by my own (insult)?
6. **Does my love go beyond Catholic borders?**
Are the parish (and diocesan) community and each parishioner truly concerned about every person in the parish (diocese) territory and not only Catholics?
7. **Is my approach ecumenical?**
Have I taken the time to discover and celebrate what I share in common with those of other traditions? In what ways have I undertaken common and cooperative ecumenical ventures: weeks of prayer for Christian unity, pulpit exchanges programs, ecumenical study groups (exploring our common Scriptures), ecumenical prayer groups, social action projects?
8. **Do I use modern media?**
How am I making effective use of methods of mass communications – newspapers, magazines, bulletins, tapes, films, radio, television, and internet? Have I ever written a letter of praise to an editor or producer?
9. **Do I fully utilize existing groups?**
Have I explored and affirmed the strengths of existing parish / diocesan organizations and considered how their evangelizing roles can be intensified?
10. **What is my total image?**
What do I as an individual convey to the unchurched? What do I communicate in terms of my presence in the civic community, my lifestyle, the buildings themselves? How inviting is my diocesan ministry (my parish) to the unchurched by everything it says and does?

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