

Living as Missionary Disciples

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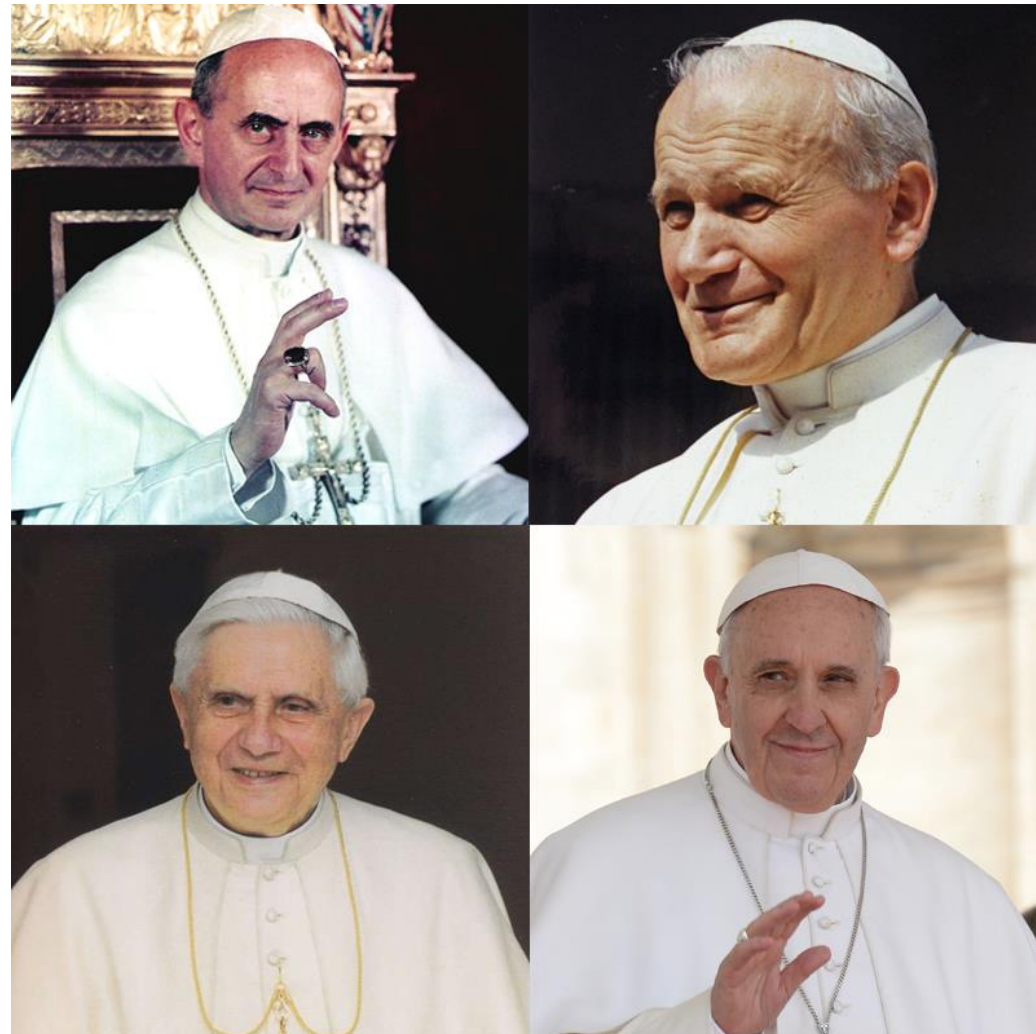
Encounter with Jesus Christ

“Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.”

(Luke 24:15-16)



Evangelization/New Evangelization



Missionary Discipleship

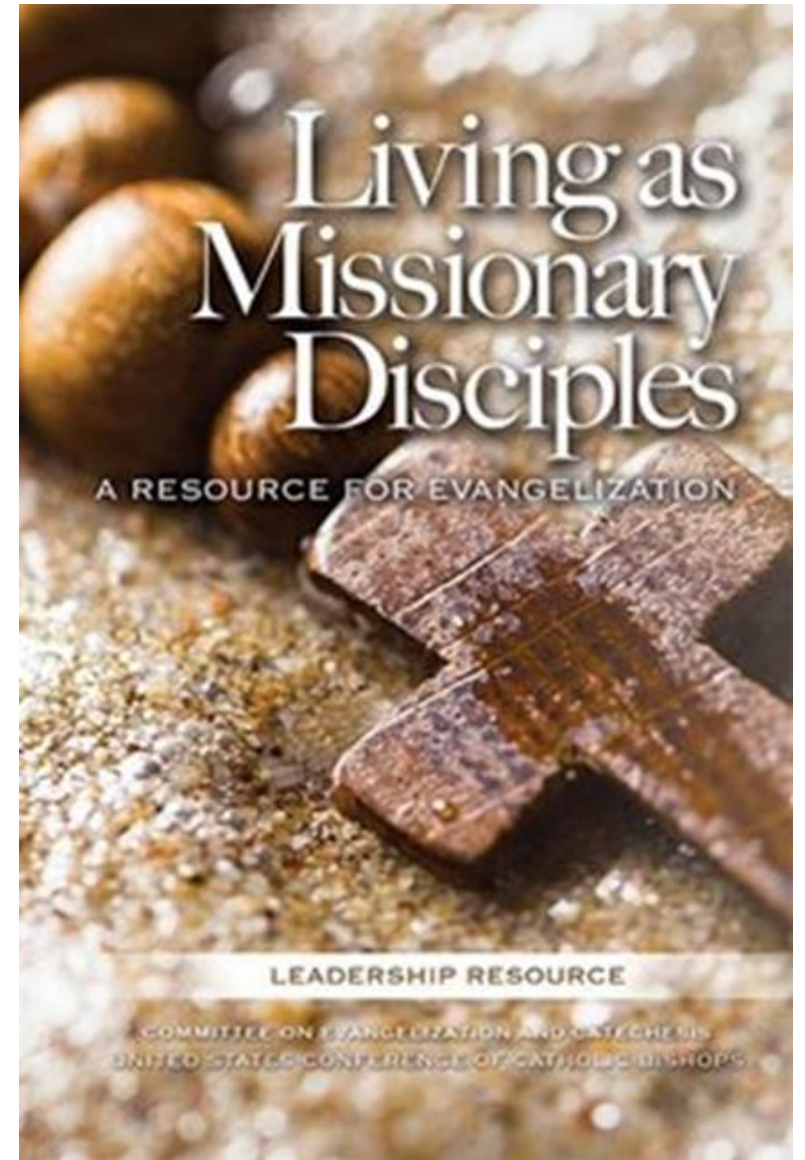


“Every Christian is a **missionary** to the extent that he or she has **encountered the love of God** in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are ‘disciples’ and ‘missionaries’, but rather that we are always ‘**missionary disciples**’.

If we are not convinced, let us look at those first disciples, who, **immediately after encountering the gaze of Jesus**, went forth to proclaim him joyfully: ‘We have found the Messiah!’ (Jn 1:41).” – *Evangelii Gaudium*, 120



July 1–4, 2017
**Convocation
of Catholic Leaders**
The Joy of the Gospel in America





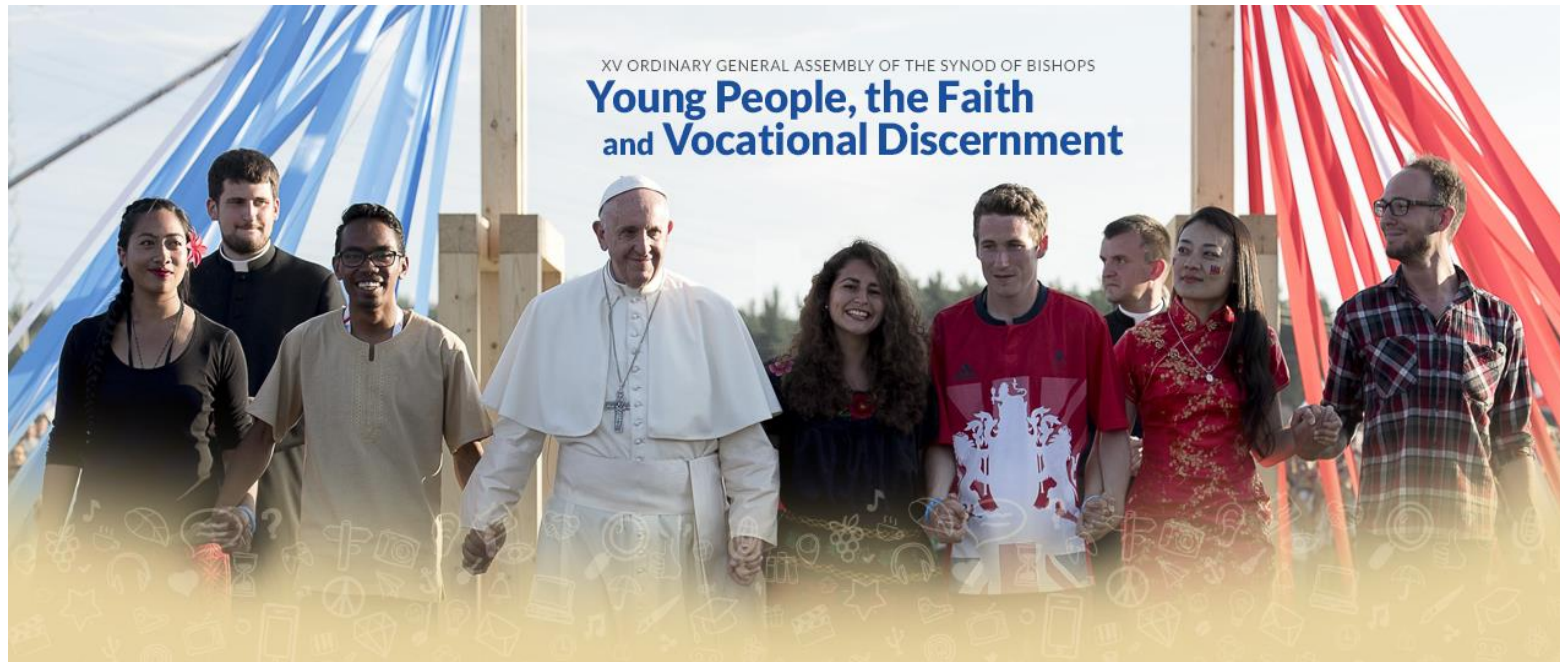
V ENCUESTRO

DISCÍPULOS MISIONEROS: TESTIGOS DEL AMOR DE DIOS
MISSIONARY DISCIPLES: WITNESSES OF GOD'S LOVE

On February 26, 2014 in Baltimore, MD, Bishop Nelson Pérez convened, for the first time, the Equipo Nacional de Acompañamiento para el V Encuentro (ENAVE). During the meeting, **“missionary discipleship”** emerged as a central theme of a V Encuentro.

In addition, they **defined the spirituality of encuentro and accompaniment** as an illustration of the Bible passage of The Road to Emmaus, which ends with the Disciples joyfully walking toward Jerusalem.

Moreover, they emphasized the **necessity for a continual pastoral conversation** that allows the Church, consistent with its missionary nature, to respond with more fidelity and enthusiasm to the Hispanic/Latino presence in parishes and dioceses. The Church will **empower the Hispanic/Latino people to live their vocation more fully as joyful missionaries to the whole Church.**



- “Jesus’ encounter with the people of his time, as recorded in the Gospels, highlight certain elements which are part of the ideal profile of the person **accompanying a young person** in vocational discernment, namely, **a loving look** (the calling of the first disciples, cf. *Jn* 1:35- 51); **an authoritative word** (teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum, cf. *Lk* 4:32); **an ability to “become the neighbor”** (the parable of the Good Samaritan, cf. *Lk* 10:25-37); **a choice to “walk beside”** (the disciples of Emmaus, cf. *Lk* 24:13-35); and **an authentic witness**, fearlessly going against preconceived ideas (the washing of the feet at the Last Supper, cf. *Jn* 13:1-20).”
- “In the task of accompanying the younger generation, the **Church accepts her call to collaborate in the joy of young people rather than be tempted to take control of their faith** (cf. *2 Cor* 1:24). Such service is ultimately founded in prayer and in asking for the gift of the Spirit, who guides and enlightens each and everyone.”
- **Going Out – Seeing – Calling**

Methodology of Missionary Discipleship Formation





Encounter

“Come and See” (Jn 1:46)

The purpose of evangelization is to lead people to encounter Christ. (page 9)



Accompany

“Follow me” (Mt 9:9)



The response to this encounter with Christ needs accompaniment.
(page 14)



Community

“Remain in me” (Jn 15:4)

Evangelization invites people to the Body of Christ, which is the Catholic Church. (page 16)



Send

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” (Mt 28:19)



Evangelization leads disciples to accept God's desire to send them on mission. (page 17)

Dependent on the Holy Spirit



Encounter with Jesus Christ

- Starting with self, then Assisting others
- Reflect on and name an experience of encounter
- Share with those around you





Questions for Reflection

- Do I have a relationship with Jesus Christ?
- In what ways do I cultivate this friendship with Jesus and his Church?
- How do I help others grow in their relationship with Christ and the Church?
- What opportunities does the parish provide to cultivate ongoing encounters with Jesus?



Pastoral Plan for Missionary Discipleship

Six Dimensions to Consider During a Pastoral Planning Process

1. Permeated with Prayer
2. Focused on Fruitfulness
3. Requires Leaders
4. Rooted in the Teachings of Our Faith and Supported by Foundational Pastoral Practices
5. Engages and Inspires People Through a Culture of Encounter and Accompaniment, Building Strong and Trusting Relationships
6. Requires Intentional Stewardship

**Permeated
with Prayer**





Focused on Fruitfulness



Requires Leaders

*Pastoral Leaders
Embrace:*

Pastoral Formation

Spiritual Formation

Human Formation

Intellectual Formation

Pastoral Leaders are
Interculturally
Competent



**Rooted in the
Teaching of our
Faith and
Supported by
Foundational
Pastoral
Practices**





Engaged and Inspires People Through a Culture of Encounter and Accompaniment, Building Strong and Trusting Relationships

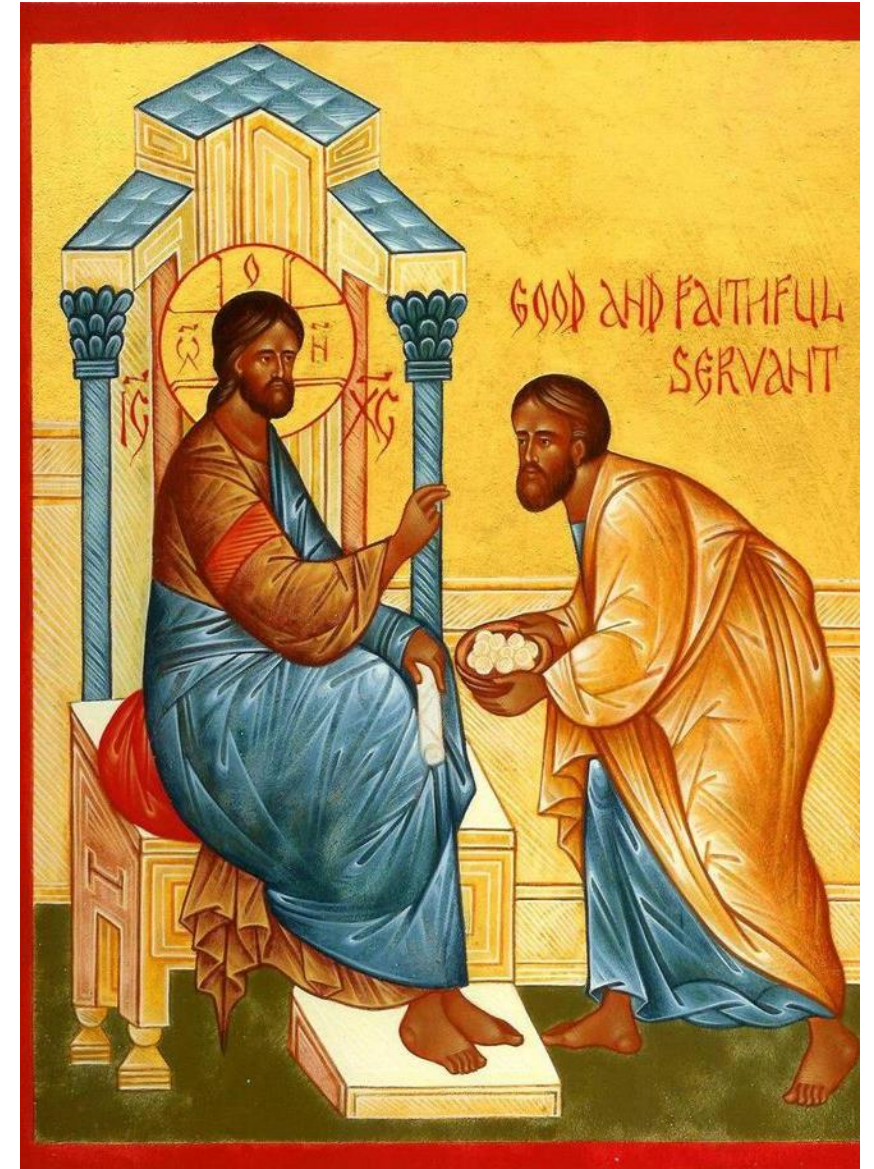
1. Engaging Others Through Christian Witness in Everyday Life
2. Creating an Atmosphere of Invitation, Hospitality, and Trust
3. Building Collaborative Relationships, Teamwork, and Commitment
4. Welcoming and Embracing Ethnically Diverse Communities



Requires Intentional Stewardship

Managing, Supervising, and Developing People

Sound Business Practices and Ethical Standards



Co-Responsibility for the Mission of Christ and the Church



“Pastoral ministry in a missionary key seeks to **abandon** the complacent attitude that says: **“We have always done it this way.”**”

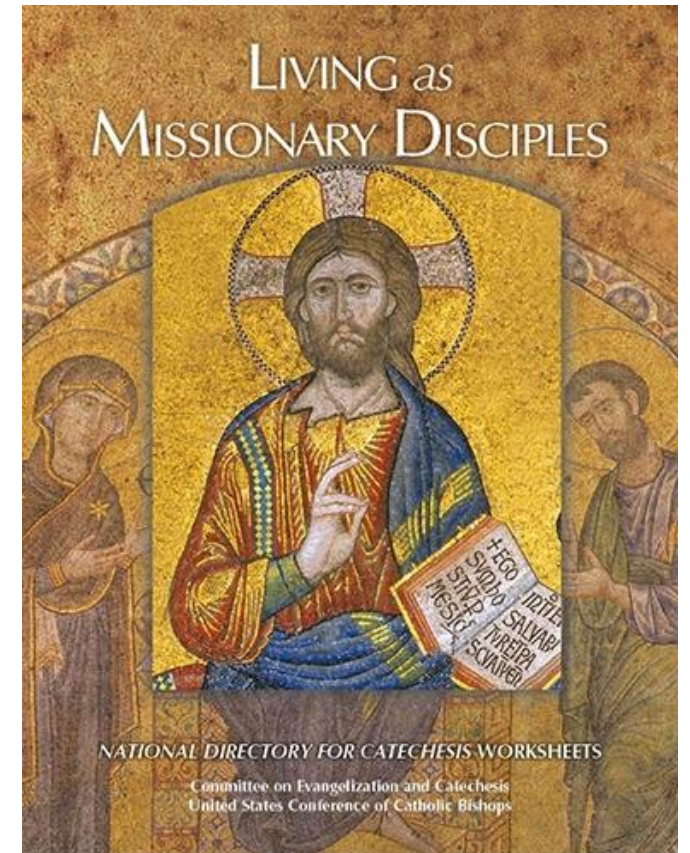
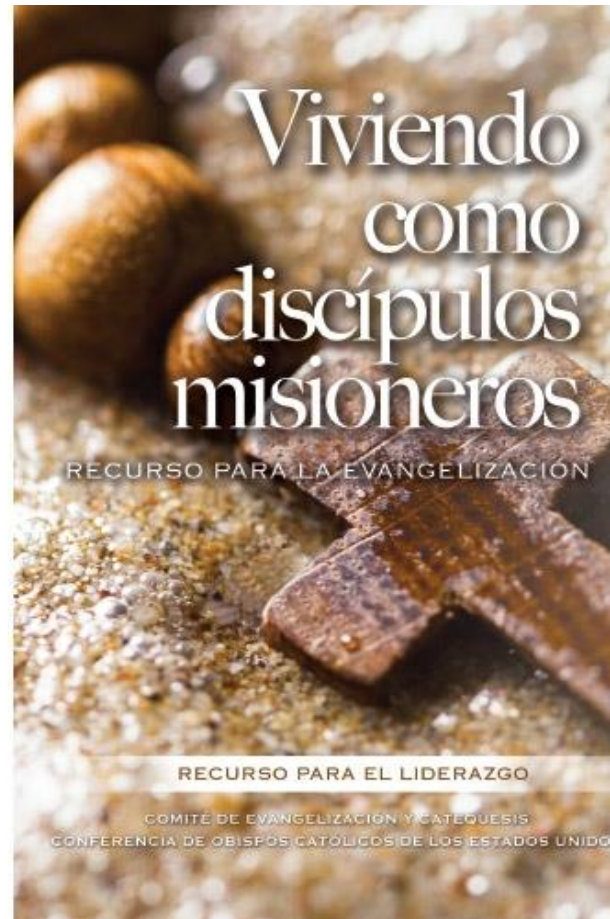
I invite everyone to be **bold and creative** in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities...

The important thing is to not walk alone, but to **rely on each other as brothers and sisters**, and especially under the leadership of the bishops, in a **wise and realistic pastoral discernment.**” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 33)

Additional Resources



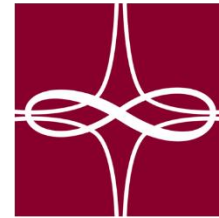
www.usccb.org





Additional Resources

www.catholicapostolatecenter.org



**Catholic
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