



Week Leading up to 4.18.21: Kerygma Saves

***{Start with reviewing the previous Meetings Challenge or discuss prior to sharing this week's challenge.}**

Let's Begin: Think about how the challenge went for the last session. What went well? What was difficult?

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a brief moment of silence shaking off any and all distractions or difficulties of the day and remembering that God is always with us.

Read: Lk 24:35-48

After the Reading Conclude with this prayer:

Dear Jesus, just like the two disciples we wish to have our minds opened to understand the Scriptures. We understand our need for repentance and ask for the Holy Spirit to enliven our hearts to Your mission and how best to share it with others. Amen

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. Is there anything that you found striking from this reading?

YouTube Video: Bishop Barron on the Meaning of the Gospel (10:56)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=UiFPkwTPjY4>

Reflection or Discussion Questions: {Leaders before starting the discussion, it may be helpful to explain the definition of these terms: Faith, Grace and Kerygma. Refer to the definitions found on the next page. }

2. Did you find anything of particular interest in this video?
3. How would you answer the questions, "What is the Gospel? What is the Good News? Are you saved by faith alone?"
4. Have you ever had an experience of sharing the Kerygma with someone? How did it go?
5. Bishop Barron shares that through faith alone we are given access to God's house, an invitation to His army. Have you ever thought of yourself as part of Jesus' army? If so in what way?
6. Bishop Barron indicates that faith is the beginning of our salvation journey. He lists some ways that allow us to participate in faith and continue to grow. What are ways you participate in faith and continue to grow in relationship with God?
7. Bishop Barron indicates that the Catholic view of salvation is a bit more complicated than being saved by faith alone. What is your perspective on salvation? Can you explain why you believe this?

{Leaders please let your group know that if they have any additional questions regarding the session today, that they are encouraged to follow up with Mike Chamberland at mchamberland@olsorrows.com or by calling 248-474-5720. }

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both }

- Read more about the Kerygma from the apostles in these verses: 1 Cor. 9:16, 2 Cor 4:5, Rom 1:15-16, 1 Peter 3:15
- Write a version of the Kerygma in your own words so that you are ready to share the basic message of the Gospel with others. Practice sharing this with one other person you trust. Refer to this website for helpful information: <https://catholicmissionarydisciples.com/news/the-content-of-the-kerygma-good-news-for-the-world>

Closing Prayer: (Leaders: We recommended offering time during the closing prayer for participants to offer personal intentions.) Dear Jesus, You truly are our Good News. Your life on earth and Your Resurrection have allowed us to share in Your divinity. Give us the courage to share Your message with others that they may know You and come to love you fully through the Eucharist. In Your loving name. Amen.

{Optional additional Readings} Sunday Reading 1: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 Sunday Reading 2: 1 Jn 2:1-5a

Additional Info: <https://www.youcat.org/news/kerygma/> and <https://clarionherald.org/news/the-mass-explained-final-blessing-and-dismissal>

Week Leading up to 4.18.21: Continued...

Faith: Hebrews 11:1-3: *Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested. By faith we understand that the universe was ordered by the word of God, so that what is visible came into being through the invisible.* Refer to <https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05752c.htm> for more details.

Grace: Grace is the supernatural gift that God, of his free benevolence, bestows on rational creatures for their eternal salvation. The gifts of grace are essentially supernatural. They surpass the being, powers, and claims of created nature, namely sanctifying grace, the infused virtues, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and actual grace. They are the indispensable means necessary to reach the beatific vision. In a secondary sense, grace also includes such blessings as the miraculous gifts of prophecy or healing, or the preternatural gifts of freedom from concupiscence. - <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/dictionary/index.cfm?id=33791>

Kerygma: It is a Greek word that means proclamation. In terms of Christianity, we are to proclaim our salvation through Jesus Christ or the Gospel. It is the core and heart and basics of the Christian faith. We proclaim the Gospel to call those that don't know Jesus to become His disciples. There are 7 key elements to the Kerygma:

1. God loves you and has a plan for your life.
2. Sin will destroy you.
3. Christ Jesus died to save you.
4. Repent and believe the Gospel.
5. Be Baptized and receive the Holy Spirit.
6. Abide in Christ and
7. Go and make disciples.

Included below is a sample Kerygma:

God's plan for humanity is that we would always be in relationship with him. In fact, we are made to be with God forever, because he made us in his "image and likeness".

But humans have sinned, and this sin has caused a break in our relationship with God. Still, God had a plan to save us.

He sent his Son, Jesus, to come and win us back to God. He lived, died, and rose from the dead in order to gain power over our sin and death. He laid down his own life, so that we can have eternal life.

Now that we have this opportunity, it is up to us to respond to his gift of grace and mercy. Jesus waits for each of us to say "yes" to repenting of our sins, believing in him, being baptized, and living a life that glorifies God, so we can live forever in Heaven with him and as many others as possible.

The choice is your own. Would you like to choose this grace today?

Source - <https://catholicmissionarydisciples.com/news/the-content-of-the-kerygma-good-news-for-the-world>