



The Joy of The Gospel

Study Guide

Chapter Three - "The Proclamation of The Gospel"

1. **"The Entire People of God Proclaims The Gospel"** "Evangelization is the task of the Church. The Church, as the agent of evangelization, is more than an organic and hierarchical institution; she is first and foremost a people advancing on its pilgrim way towards God." In this chapter, Pope Francis speaks of the entire people of God as evangelizers. As you read through each section keep in mind the Church's foundation in the "free and gracious initiative of God" and how these examples speak to your life. How is God calling you? What steps can you take in your life to move toward becoming a missionary disciple?
 - A People for Everyone
 - A People of Many Faces
 - We Are All Missionary Disciples
 - The Evangelizing Power of Popular Piety
 - Person to Person
 - Charisms at The Service of A Communion Which Evangelizes
 - Culture, Thought, and Education
2. **"The Homily"** "In the course of the homily, the hearts of believers keep silence and allow God to speak. The Lord and his people speak to one another in a thousand ways directly, without intermediaries. But in the homily they want someone to serve as an instrument and to express their feelings in such a way that afterwards, each one may choose how he or she will continue the conversation." This section about the homily give directives for the priest or deacon. There is also a directive to all of us as the listeners. Have you heard the voice of God directed at you during a homily? Was there a time when something the priest or deacon said related to your life in some way?
3. **"Preparing to Preach"** In this section, Pope Francis directly speaks to the ones preparing to preach and offers a method of preparing homilies. For those of us who are not preaching but listening, how can we prepare to hear what God wants to say to us?

4. **“Evangelization and The Deeper Understanding of The Kerygma”** “On the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: “Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.” This first proclamation is called “First” not because it exists at the beginning and can then be forgotten or replaced by other more important things. It is first in a qualitative sense because it is the principal proclamation, the one which we must hear again and again in different ways, the one which we must announce one way or the other throughout the process of catechesis, at every level and moment.” At the end of this chapter Pope Francis calls for ongoing study of the bible. “God has already spoken...let us receive the sublime treasure of the revealed word.” Spend some time this week reviewing the readings for next Sunday’s Mass.