IA Recap

Intentional Accompaniment Training | Session 4

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Testimony Recap

- The Gospel message presented in terms of your own experience.

- Importance of testimony in evangelization / IA

- The "three-minute" testimony of initial conversion
  - Before – "I was blind"
  - Central Turning Point – "Jesus healed me"
  - Now – "Now I can see"

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Check In on "Homework"

Write your testimony, keeping in mind the three "phases" of your testimony: the "before," the "central turning point," and the "now."

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Session "0": Why Accompaniment?

- No longer in a world where Christianity is the norm.
- We know people in our lives who do not know Jesus or don't know Him well enough.

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The Church will have to initiate everyone – priests, religious and laity – into this "art of accompaniment" which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other (cf. Ex 3:5). The pace of this accompaniment must be steady and reassuring, reflecting our closeness and our compassionate gaze which also heals, liberates and encourages growth in the Christian life.

(*Evangelii Gaudium*, 169)

Initial Conversion

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Session 1: Relationship Matters

- Importance of relationship in IA – examples of the saints (St. Francis Xavier & St. Ignatius, etc.)
- "It's not about the nail"
- Active listening practices
- Asking good questions

Session 1: Relationship Matters

- Listening with the Holy Spirit
  - Direction
  - Docility
  - Detachment

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The Holy Spirit is the soul of the Church. It is He who explains to the faithful the deep meaning of the teaching of Jesus and of His mystery. It is the Holy Spirit who, today just as at the beginning of the Church, acts in every evangelizer who allows himself to be possessed and led by Him. The Holy Spirit places on his lips the words which he could not find by himself, and at the same time the Holy Spirit predisposes the soul of the hearer to be open and receptive to the Good News and to the kingdom being proclaimed.

(*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 75)

CREATED

Why is there something rather than nothing?

CAPTURED

Why is everything so obviously messed up?

RESCUED

What, if anything, has God done about it?

RESPONSE

If He's done something, how should I respond?

Session 3: Testimony

- How the kerygma aligns with our story
- Importance of a testimony of initial conversion

Initial Conversion

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Putting It Together

- *Rapport* – how can I connect?
- *Survey* – what do I see?
- *Zoom* – where do I need to look more closely?
- *Strengthen* – how can I support and reinforce?

Discussion

- What is your biggest takeaway from this IA training?
- What are you excited to put into practice with your PREP parents? What are you nervous about?
- What questions do you still have about accompaniment?

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For Further Learning

- *Intentional Accompaniment* by Michael Hall
- Proclaim podcast – Intentional Accompaniment series (Episodes 34 – 39)
- Intentional Accompaniment Workshop from Upper Room 2021

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