



Communicating the Gospel

OVERVIEW

This activity helps young people explore the role of communication in spreading the Gospel and promoting unity within the Catholic community. It introduces them to the importance of various media professionals, including journalists, broadcasters, and social media managers, and the challenges they face in sharing Catholic values in today's society.

OBJECTIVE

Learn about different media roles and their impact on spreading the Gospel.

ACTIVITY STEPS

- 1. Introduction Discussion:** Start with a group discussion about communication. Ask these or similar questions:
 - What does it mean to communicate?
 - What makes communication effective or engaging?
 - Can you think of ways we see or hear about our faith in media (TV, radio, social media)?
- 2. Role Exploration:** Introduce different roles in media that help spread the Gospel. Invite the young people to name people who work in communications, such as
 - **Journalists:** Report on Catholic news and events
 - **Broadcasters:** Share faith-based programming on radio or television
 - **Social Media Influencers:** Create content (videos, blogs, or podcasts) that engages and educates others about the faith
- 3. Small-Group Activity:** Divide the young people into small groups. Assign each group one of the roles listed above. Each group will create a simple presentation or skit that showcases
 - What the assigned media professional does
 - How a person in that role spreads the Gospel
 - Challenges that person might face (e.g., sharing values in a secular world, dealing with prejudices or misinformation)
- 4. Group Presentations:** Allow each group to present its role to the class. Encourage creativity—groups can use role-play, drawings, or a simple slide presentation.
- 5. Discussion on Challenges:** Facilitate a discussion on the challenges faced by media professionals in sharing Catholic values. Some potential discussion points include the following:
 - How do they communicate truth with empathy?
 - What are some ways they can engage a younger audience?
 - How might they respond to negative comments or misinformation?
- 6. Personal Reflection:** Ask each child to reflect on his or her own role in communication. Provide these or similar questions:
 - How can I share my faith with friends in person or online?
 - What positive messages can I communicate when doing extracurricular activities?
 - How can I advocate for unity in my school, neighborhood, or parish community?

Communicating the Gospel

- 7. Creative Expression:** As a concluding activity, have each child create a poster, digital graphic, or short video that communicates a positive message about the faith or promotes unity in the community. The children can use drawings, quotes, or images to express their ideas.
- 8. Closing Prayer:** Conclude the activity with a prayer, asking for guidance to communicate the Gospel effectively and to promote unity within the community.

Generative AI was utilized in the composition of these activities with ChatGPT, October 18, 2024, OpenAI.

Dear Holy Spirit,

Thank you for your love and the gift of faith that fills our hearts. As we seek to share your Gospel with others, we ask for your wisdom and guidance. Help us to understand your Word deeply and to communicate it clearly.

Grant us the courage to speak about our faith with confidence and kindness. Reveal to us the right words to say and the right actions to take, so that others may see your light in us.

Guide our hearts to listen to those around us, to understand their needs, and to share your message of love and hope. Help us to be examples of your grace in our everyday lives.

May our efforts bring others closer to you and inspire unity within our communities. We trust in your direction as we strive to be your messengers.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



© sutlark/Getty