

5.1 Evangelization Worksheet

Group Work:

Your facilitator will assign 1-3 people each of the following Bible verses to look up and read out loud for the group:

Lk. 24:48-49

Acts 1:8

Mt. 28:18-20

Based on these verses, when and why do you think Jesus commissioned the Church to evangelize?

St Pope Paul VI said, "Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection." (*Evangelii Nuntiandi/On Evangelization in the Modern World* , 14)

What does it mean that evangelization is the church's deepest identity? Why does this matter?

St Pope Paul VI goes on to say, "The Church is an evangelizer, but she begins by being evangelized herself. She is the community of believers...she needs to listen unceasingly to what she must believe...She is the People of God immersed in the world, and often tempted by idols, and she always needs to hear the proclamation of the 'mighty works of God' which converted her to the Lord...In brief this means that she has a constant need of being evangelized, if she wishes to retain freshness, vigor, and strength in order to proclaim the Gospel. The Second Vatican Council recalled and the 1974 Synod vigorously took up again this theme of the Church which is evangelized by constant conversion and renewal, in order to evangelize the world with credibility. (*Evangelii Nuntiandi/On Evangelization in the Modern World*, 15)

Why do we need to be evangelized before we can evangelize?