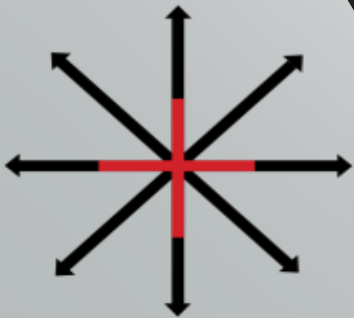




*A Call to Discipleship...*  
*Turning Challenges Into Opportunities*

Diocese of Las Vegas 2017 Conference

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# *Evangelization Context*

- Pope Paul VI  
*The Church exists to evangelize*
- Pope John Paul II  
*...new in ardor, methods and expression*
- Pope Benedict XVI  
*...re-propose faith in a culture which has lost the instinct to believe*
- Pope Francis  
In every activity of evangelization, the primacy always belongs to God...

## *An Invitation...*



- I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment , to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, **or at least an openness to letting him encounter them.**  
EG3#
- I never tire of repeating the words of Benedict XVI which take us to the very heart of the Gospel: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.”



## *A Viable Option...Be Bold & Creative*

*I invite everyone to be **bold and creative** in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities. EG33*

# Creating a Culture of Encounter is the Work of the Church





## *The Spirit at Work*

- *Spirit filled evangelizers means evangelizers fearlessly open to the working of the Holy Spirit.*

EG#1

- Each of us must cross the red line from being a follower/believer to being a disciple. This can only happen with an encounter with Jesus. (JEH)

# *Lumen Fidei...* Pope Francis



*The Light of Faith comes from an encounter with the living God and lights the entire journey for believers.*

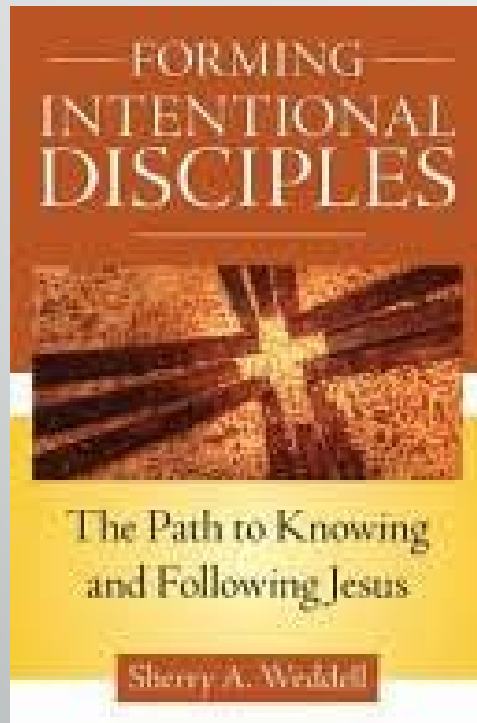


*Key to New Evangelization...*

***A Paradigm Shift***

**Believer** → → → ***Disciple***

# Forming Intentional Disciples



- We learned that there is a chasm the size of the Grand Canyon between the Church's sophisticated theology of the lay apostolate and the *lived* spiritual experience of the majority of our people. And this chasm has a name:

## *Discipleship*

- The spiritual winds blow both ways in our postmodern world: *into* and *out* of the Church. Our spiritual climate provides us with real opportunities and very definite threats if we do not adjust our evangelizing, catechetical, and pastoral practice to the unique challenges of the times in which we live.

## Act Now

- *To make this missionary impulse ever more focused, generous and fruitful, I encourage each particular Church to undertake a resolute process of discernment, purification and reform. EG#30*
- *We need to move from a pastoral ministry of mere conservation to a decidedly missionary pastoral ministry. EG15*
- *There are ecclesial structures which can hamper efforts at evangelization, yet even good structures are only helpful when there is a life constantly driving, sustaining and assessing them. EG26*



## *Missionary Impulse*

*To make this missionary impulse ever more focused, generous and fruitful, I encourage each particular Church to undertake a resolute process of discernment, purification and reform. EG30*

## *An Evangelization Community*

- knows that the Lord has taken the initiative
- gets involved by word and deed in people's daily lives
- is also supportive, standing by people every step of the way, no matter how difficult or lengthy this may prove to be.
- is always concerned about the fruit, because the Lord wants her to be fruitful
- Is filled with joy.

## *From Maintenance to Mission*

- *I hope that all communities will devote the necessary effort to advancing along the path of a pastoral and missionary conversion which cannot leave things as they presently are. 'Mere administration' can no longer be enough. Throughout the world, let us be 'permanently in a state of mission.'* EG25
- *In our ongoing discernment, we must remember that there is no authentic leadership as pastoral ministers without conversion. It is the only way to move from maintenance to mission.*



## *A Time to Reflect and Share...*

- In the past month, what was that one moment when you truly encountered the presence of Jesus Christ in your ministry?



WHAT KIND OF *PASTORAL* LEADERSHIP  
IS NEEDED  
FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION?



# Being a Pastoral Leader

- Emotional intelligence/self awareness-managing self
  - Self awareness
  - Empathy for others
  - Humility
  - Being of service for the other



# Characteristics of a Pastoral Leader

- Experienced personal conversion
- Creates a culture of Encounter [Pope Francis]
- Empowers other people. Creates collaborative teams
- Works with teams to offer a vision that has impact and actions

# Lead vs Manage

## Leadership vs. Management

### Managers

- Plan and budget
- Organize and staff
- Status quo
- Short-term
- Controlling
- Means
- Builders

### Leaders

- Envision and direct
- Align employees
- Change
- Long-term
- Inspiring/motivating
- Ends
- Architects



# Creating a Culture of Encounter

- How leaders create cultures: Name priorities, create forums, bring people together
- Leaders Create Cultures that Foster Encounter
  - Shift from Leader as Manager or Administrator
- Example: Diocesan Pastoral Plan
  - 1) Foster Encounter 2) Create Collaborative Culture 3) Witness to Encounter

# Building a Cohesive team

## Create Agility within the team and the parish

Focus on organizational agility to nurture and sustain community life over time.

- Agility: The quality or state of being agile; nimbleness.
- Agile: Marked by ready ability to move with quick, easy grace; mentally quick and resourceful.
- Agility of processes and procedures, adaptability.

# Leaders Provide a Vision



# What does a Vision Do?

- 1.** Provides “desired future” on which to focus effort. Inspires people to get engaged, often eliciting gifts and resources that would not otherwise have come forward
- 2.** Provides a lens through which to organize action. Moves us to action and helps us also decide what to say “No” to.

# *A Reflective Exchange of Ideas*

A word cloud on a white rectangular background. The words are in various sizes and colors (dark red, yellow, and grey). The largest word is 'leadership' in dark red at the bottom. Other prominent words include 'integrity' in dark red at the top left, 'vision' in yellow at the top right, and 'care' in dark red in the middle left. Smaller words include 'mission', 'responsibility', 'inspiring', 'values', 'honesty', 'others', 'character', and 'credibility'.

mission integrity character credibility  
care responsibility values honesty others vision  
inspiring leadership

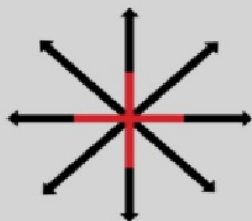
*WHAT KIND OF PASTORAL  
LEADERSHIP IS NEEDED?*





## *A Time to Reflect and Share...*

- In the past month, what was one moment you felt that your leadership brought people closer to Jesus Christ?
- What areas would you like to strengthen as a leader who leads people towards encounter, building teams, creating vision and a culture of encounter?



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*Paulist Father John E. Hurley*