



FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM CHALLENGE

2016 PFO | July Chapter Assembly

CFCYFL
WWW.CFCYFL.ORG





Objectives

At the end of the session, the participants are expected to:

1. Understand that everyone is in need of God and has to be evangelized;
2. Value the call given by God to do mission and evangelization; and
3. Go out of our comfort zones to fish people back to God.

Methodology

Opening prayer	5 minutes
Icebreaker	20 minutes
Session	45 minutes
Workshop	30 minutes
Worship	20 minutes

Icebreaker

Dynamics:

1. Make a circle formation with the chairs. If the participants number to a hundred (100), then chairs should be a hundred and one (101) pieces. Arrange the chairs in circle facing inward.
2. Once the music is played, the players who are at the vacant chair's left and right should pick up another player who is across their position (not those who are immediate or near to them) and bring and assist him or her to the vacant chair. Whoever is chosen, cannot say no.
3. With that, there would be a "new vacant chair". So the players who are at left and right of the new vacant chair should pick up another player who is across their position and bring that player to the new vacant chair. So there would be a new vacant chair again.
4. This will go on until the music stops.
5. Whoever is caught standing, no matter how many they are, as the music stops will receive penalty. They may be asked to perform and share their talents.

Processing:

1. What part of the game was easy?
2. What part of the game was hard?
3. How did you feel while you were playing?
4. During the times that you were the "It" (the ones picking up players), what did you feel?
5. To those who became "It", did you even think of which person you should bring to the vacant chair? Or you would just get anyone?
6. What did you learn from the activity?



Points:

- We can liken this game to evangelization.
- When we were the It of the game, there is an urgent need for us to fill our vacant chair with another person; and we have to do it immediately, or else we will lose in the game.
- **Evangelization is an urgent work.** If we don't do it now, when will we do it? If we don't do it now, we might lose our friends from the faith.
- When we were also the It of the game, picking another person who would fill our vacant chair needs no time for choosing. We just have to get them sit in our chair.
- **Everyone is to be evangelized.** We don't have to assess if this person has to be evangelized or not. Whoever that person is, he/she must be evangelized.

Expanded Outline

"Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20).

I. A Call to Evangelize

Jesus started his ministry by calling His first disciples to be fishers of men (Matthew 4:19). Likewise, He also ended his ministry here on earth by ordering His followers to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). Jesus values evangelism so much that he started and ended his earthly mission by calling his disciples to evangelize. If evangelism is so important to Jesus, shouldn't it be important to us too?

That is why we, in CFC FFL, proclaim that "We are an evangelistic and missionary community committed to become families empowered by the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth."

If we are not giving importance to evangelism, we are being unfaithful to our covenant and disobedient to God.



II. Are We Evangelizing or Just Recruiting?

What is the big difference? These two words may mean the same but to a Christian community; they are miles apart in meaning and significance. Let us show the difference by using an analogy.

Recruiting is similar to inviting people to a birthday party without introducing them to the birthday celebrant. After eating, they get uncomfortable and immediately leave. Maybe this is the reason why some of our youth camp graduates do not stay long in our community. They attend as long as the activities are exciting and fun but when everything gets routinely and ordinary, they leave. They did not see the 'deeper' reason why they were called to join our community.

Evangelizing is attending a party where you know the celebrant. Your stay at the party does not depend on the food, other people or the activities, but on the celebrant. We are just happy that we are with Him and that's our only reason for staying.

III. Who are we evangelizing?

Who are the people who need Christ? What types of people are they? Let us look at the bible to the people whom Jesus offered himself.

A. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-5)

Zacchaeus was an important and wealthy man (v.2). But despite his fame and riches, he still desired to see Jesus. Could there be something still missing in his life? This story proves to us that even those we think don't need Christ, (the rich and the famous) don't have everything in the world. What money and fame can't provide, only God can satisfy.

B. The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-17)

The prodigal sons are the type of people that obviously need God. They have wasted their time trying to satisfy themselves through temporary and worldly ways. They are the people who obey no one else except themselves. This attitude leads them to their ruin. They need a Father who will love and accept them despite all the wrongs they have done.

C. The Prodigal Son's Brother (Luke 15:25-32)

These are the people we think are already in Christ. They are the ones who have devoted their lives in serving God. But in spite of these, this type of people who we think are close to Christ are still far from Him! They are still insecure even though the Father



has already assured them that what He has is theirs too (v.31). They resent it when new members join the community because they might take the spotlight away from them.

In summary, these are the people who need Christ:

- The people we think DON'T need Christ.
- The people who OBVIOUSLY need Christ.
- The people we think are ALREADY in Christ.

They are basically almost everyone!

IV. What Attitudes Should We Have?

When we face these people, what should be our mindset? What should be our attitude?

A. Everybody needs Christ, they just don't know it.

Before we had our first cellphone, we were living normally. But ever since we owned one, we think we cannot live without it. The convenience that it gives is something that we haven't felt before and is the reason that makes us say we cannot live without it.

The same is true in knowing Christ. Once a person felt His unconditional love and how this love has changed the way that he/she looks at him/herself, he/she can never let go of Christ.

B. People are just waiting to be invited.

"My soul will not find rest until it rests in God," says Saint Augustine. God has created in our hearts a vacuum that only He can fill. Most people are tired of finding that rest in other things. They know that it is only God who can fill that emptiness and wanted to have a profound relationship with Him. But they don't know how to start.

C. All I need to do is to plant the seed.

They say that a person needs an average 5 Jesus experiences before he/she will commit him/herself to Christ. We may be just planting the first, second, third or fourth seed, but at least, this moves him closer to the fifth. It is God's work to transform; our job is just to plant the seed.



V. Go Fishing

Fishing is an activity that requires preparation –from the bait to the fishing rod. The same thing is true about evangelism. After hearing the truths about evangelism and the attitudes we need to take, let us learn the steps that will prepare us to fish for men:

A. Tell your friend you are a Christian.

Spend some time praying for the people on your list and ask God to give you the strength and courage to tell your friends that you're a Christian. *The best way to start is by telling your friends about the activities we do here in CFC YFL.*

Upon waking up, say this short prayer before God: "Lord, who do you want me to bring to you today?"

B. Invite your friend to an appropriate program.

Invite him to a crowd/congregation activity that caters to his interest. Or just bring your friend along in your next fellowship activity (movie, basketball game, etc.).

C. Tell your friend why you are a Christian.

Write your own personal testimony. You should know this by heart and should be ready to share it anytime the need arises.

D. Tell your friend how you become a Christian.

Speak in a natural language that you use every day. Avoid Christian jargons.

E. Ask your friend if he/she would like to become a Christian.

It's your friend's decision, so don't take the blame if he or she says "no." But be sure to ASK! So many people are waiting for someone to ask.



VI. Workshop

PART I. The workshop part is done in a state of prayer. The speaker opens this part with a prayer. During the prayer, the speaker gives these instructions:

- A. Give out the Friendship Evangelism Challenge card. (Appendix A)
- B. Ask the participants to list the names of the friends that they praying for.
- C. Give out the “My Testimony” sheet (Appendix B). At this time, a reflection song may be sung while the participants are filling it out.

When everybody is finished, the speaker closes with a prayer.

PART II. The speaker arranges the participants into groups of 3 members each. He assigns each member with the following roles:

- A. Sharer - A Christian sharing his testimony
- B. Listener – A non Christian listening to a friend
- C. Observer – comments on the sharer

After 5 minutes, the roles are rotated. The activity stops when everyone has taken each role.

The objective of this exercise is to make the participants get used to sharing their personal testimony. The observer comments whether the sharer uses jargons, have distracting mannerisms, etc.

VII. Conclusion

Evangelism is tough. It requires courage and passion because it makes us vulnerable and open to rejection. Let us keep in mind that Christ has undergone the worst kind of humiliation and rejection when he lived on earth. It will be our privilege to share that suffering with Him.

Let us be confident in sharing because what we have is something that the world needs. We have the greatest story ever told! We must be affirmed that God is with us as He has promised: And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age (Matthew 28:20).



APPENDIX

	<h3>Friends I am praying for</h3>
"Come Follow me, and I will make you Fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

	<h3>Go Fish!</h3> <p>FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM CHALLENGE</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell your friend you are a member of a Catholic group CFC YFL. 2. Invite your friend to an appropriate activity. 3. Tell your friend how you became a member of CFC YFL. 4. Tell your friend your personal testimony. 5. Ask your friend if he/she would like to become a CFC YFL member.