

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR A ZEALOUS HEART DOCILITY

1) DOCILITY MEANS BEING EASILY TAUGHT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

- “[Missionary] spirituality is expressed first of all by *a life of complete docility to the Spirit. It commits us to being molded from within by the Spirit, so that we may become ever more like Christ.*” (John Paul II, Redemptoris Missio, 87)
- *“Do not conform yourself to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Rom 12:2)*
- Docility is having a “What would Jesus Do?” bracelet on your soul!
“A son cannot do anything on his own, but only what he sees his father doing.” (John 5:19)
“I do not seek my own will, but the will of the Father.” (John 5:30)

2) DOCILITY IS THE KEY TO EFFECTIVE EVANGELIZATION

- Ex. Francis McNutt’s book on Healing, a man who had the gift of healing decided to go to a hospital and pray with each of the sick. To his dismay no one was getting healed, so he asked the Lord why. Response: “Did I ask you to go to the hospital and pray with all the sick?”
- We must always be attentive to the Spirit’s direction in each situation. If we don’t, we can end up wasting a lot of time and effort on projects and approaches that are ineffective.
(Ex. Peter fishing all night and catching nothing, vs. the big catch under Jesus’ direction)

3) DOCILITY IN SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS

- Docility means keeping one “ear” on the person and one “ear” on the Lord.
- Each person God created is unique, unique experiences in life, obstacles which block conversion. Docility puts us in a responsive mode, responding to the Holy Spirit who knows what each person needs.

Ex. Walking into a Room: Take 2 - A docile person asks the Lord questions (“Who do you want me to talk to? What should I say to this person?”) and listens in his heart for the leading of the Spirit. Maybe we need to give them a book, or they are hungry and need food, or we may just have to pray & listen. We can do this anywhere: during this school, at Mass, in your family life, on mission.

If we’re following the lead of the Spirit, we can evangelize with confidence in the Lord.

PRAYER: Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.

ACTION: Become practiced at asking God about what He wants, each moment of the day.

