

Catholic Charismatic Conference “Brave and Steadfast”
Franciscan University Steubenville, Ohio June 7-9, 2013

The information contained in this document is the result of notes taken during my attending the conference. Some of the quotes are paraphrased and are not meant to be exact but to simply give food for thoughts. At times they may be very choppy.

Friday 6/7/2013 Night 4 PM Mass

Readings were Ezekiel 34 v 11-16, Psalm 23, and Romans 5v 5b-11. The love of God has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. If the love is poured out and we share no one will say quit loving me so much! Our world would not hide if we gave them so much love. Let's pray to the Holy Spirit that the love of God will be poured into our hearts. The cost of discipleship has increased. Our Lord is with us every day. He never fails us. Our faith is worth an eternity.

Friday Night 6/7/2013

“Jesus is Lord and Savior” – Father Richard McAlear, OMI

Evangelization is about proclaiming Jesus. Our faith is about someone not something. There is something more that people were hungering for in life.

Why are Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and others different than Christians? Why is Christianity better? Because we are baptized in the Holy Spirit. We want to know Jesus not about Jesus. Jesus is the Lord the giver of life. It is the Spirit of Jesus and Jesus himself who brings about light to the church. You cannot share what you do not have.

Who were the first to ever evangelize?

The shepherds Luke 2 v 14-16: “¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favors. ¹⁵ Now it happened that when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this event which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶ So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.”

Anna Luke 2 v 36-38: “³⁶ There was a prophetess, too, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years ³⁷ before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. ³⁸ She came up just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.”

The woman at the well

These are models for the evangelization. They tell everyone and they bring them to Jesus. Evangelization is sharing Jesus, the person. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is God's gift to the church to bring Jesus. He makes Jesus alive. It's not theory, theology or dogma. It is the person of Jesus.

Jesus is God. He is the way. If you see Jesus, you see God the Father. Jesus is that meeting place of God and men. Jesus reveals God. John 1 v 18: “¹⁸No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.” Nobody ever knew God except the one close to his heart: That is Jesus. If you don't know Jesus you don't know God. Be aware of those who claim to know God. They kill in the name of God thinking they honor Him.

Pay attention to John 3 v 17 “¹⁷ For God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but so that through him the world might be saved”. Therefore be forgiving do not condemn and be merciful. We draw people to the heart of Jesus and that is through mercy and love. If we could show that love, people would run to it. We are all familiar with this passage from Philippians 2 v 6 – 11: “⁶Who, being in the form of God, did not count equality with God something to be grasped. ⁷ But he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming as human beings are; and being in every way like a human being, ⁸ he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. ⁹ And for this God raised him high, and gave him the name which is above all other names; ¹⁰ so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus ¹¹ and that every tongue should acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” He alone is the Holy One, He alone is the Most High Jesus is the savior. All other religions say obey and seek, Christianity says love God. God comes down to our level we cannot go up to find him. We want that intimate relationship which goes beyond fear and trembling.

Jesus is alive! There are two kinds of proclamation of the resurrection:

-He is risen

-He is alive! Mary of Magdala said I saw the Lord!

He is present as a living person; therefore he is at work among us that is the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is present. Where is he? In the upper room the bible says that he appeared to them in other words he made himself visible. But then he withdrew from their sight. The bible does not say that he went through the walls. Whether you can see him or not He is here. He remained with them, he never left them. Whether you can see him or not, he is at work in your faith. Ask Jesus to enter your heart.