

Franciscan Journey

Chapter 10

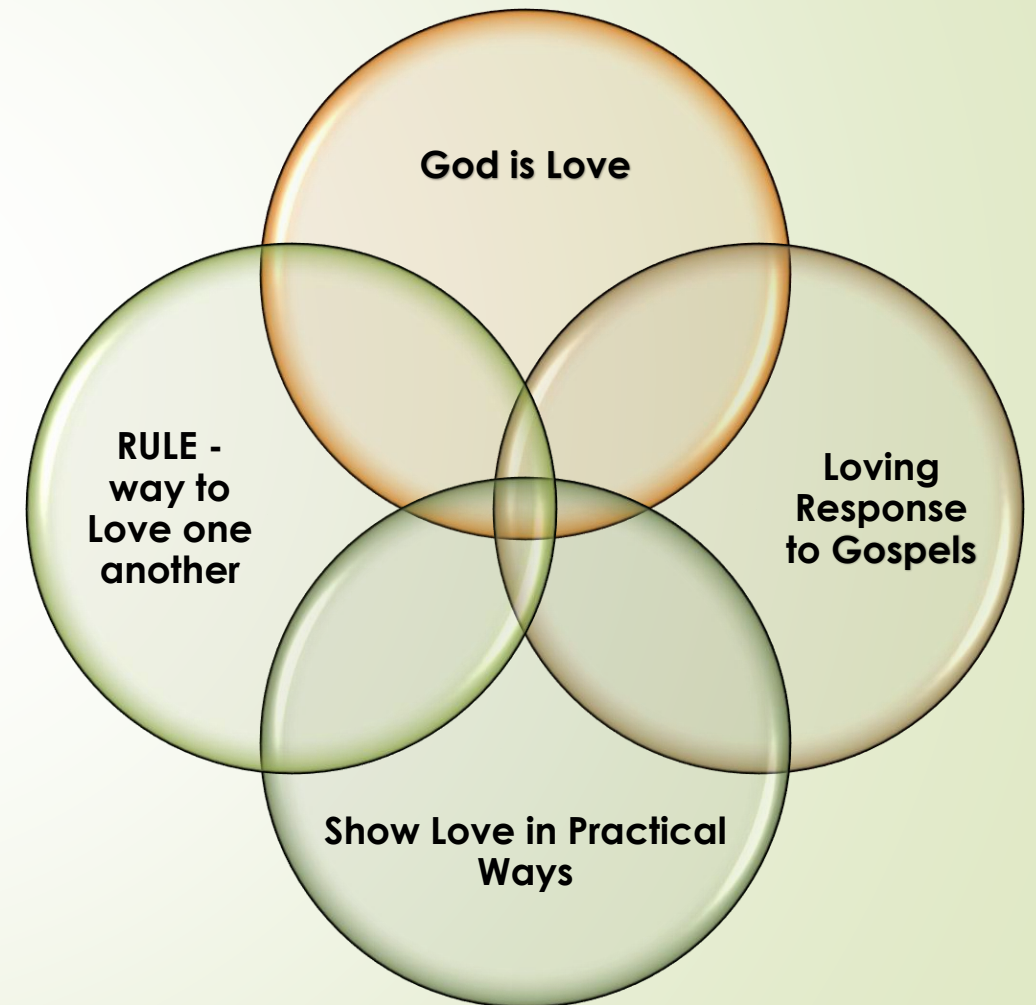
By Lester Bach OFM Cap

CANDIDACY IN THE SFO



Candidacy – 18 to 36 months

- Candidacy is the end of initial formation, but not end of formation
- Leads to your final decision to make profession as a Secular Franciscan or not
- Time to consecrate gifts and skills to service of fraternity, Church and World
- Bring the spirit of Francis to the World
- Invitation to a new life
- Develop a loving response to the Gospels



Francis invites us to deepen our relationship with Jesus

Candidates should explore ways to achieve intimacy with Jesus

Good, often does not lead to
change of life



Prayer



Rosaries



Retreats



Programs

Conversion - Life change

- Contemplative Prayer
- Formation that is livable and credible & must show in our behavior
- Called to be "Living Stones" build community of believers - Kingdom of God
- Holy Spirit will transform through prayer & action

Prologue to the 1978 Rule

written by St Francis of Assisi

Exhortation to
Brothers & Sisters
of Penance –
Francis tells us
what happens
when we do
Penance – and
when we do not
do Penance



“All those who refuse
to do penance and
receive the Body
and Blood of our Lord
JESUS CHRIST are blind....
They indulge their vices
and sins and follow
their evil longings
and desires, without
a thought for the
promises they made.”

—**Saint Francis
of Assisi**

Those who do Penance



Love God



Love Eucharist



Love Self



Love Neighbor

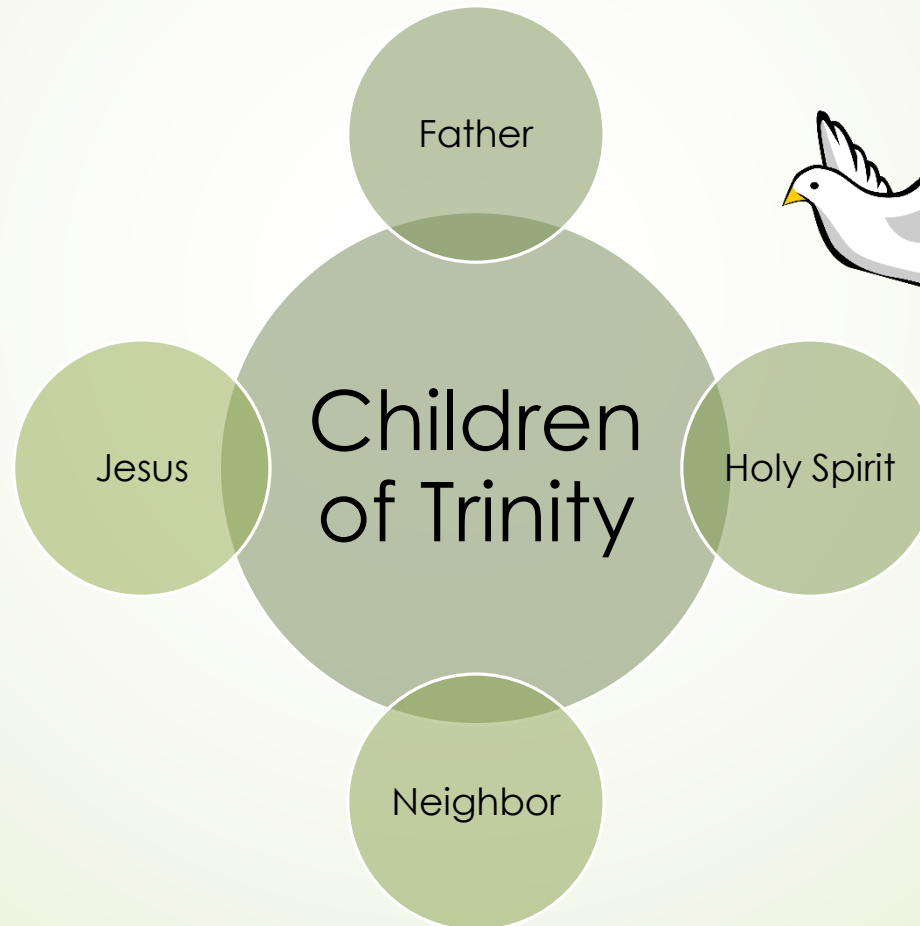


Faith Shows in Actions



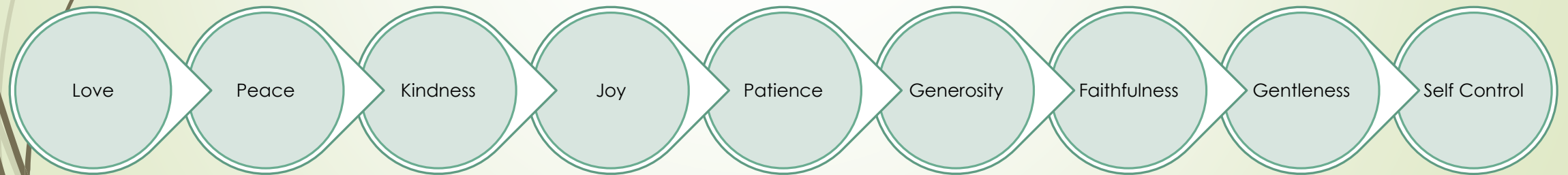
Focus on Relationship with God

Relational - We are brothers, sisters of Jesus,
when our lives reflect the model of Jesus



When we
cooperate with the
Holy Spirit, JOY
becomes a stable
quality

Holy Spirit prepares us to go out to bring others to Christ



Prologue is integral part of the SFO Rule

It calls us to:

Accept inner meaning of
penance & conversion

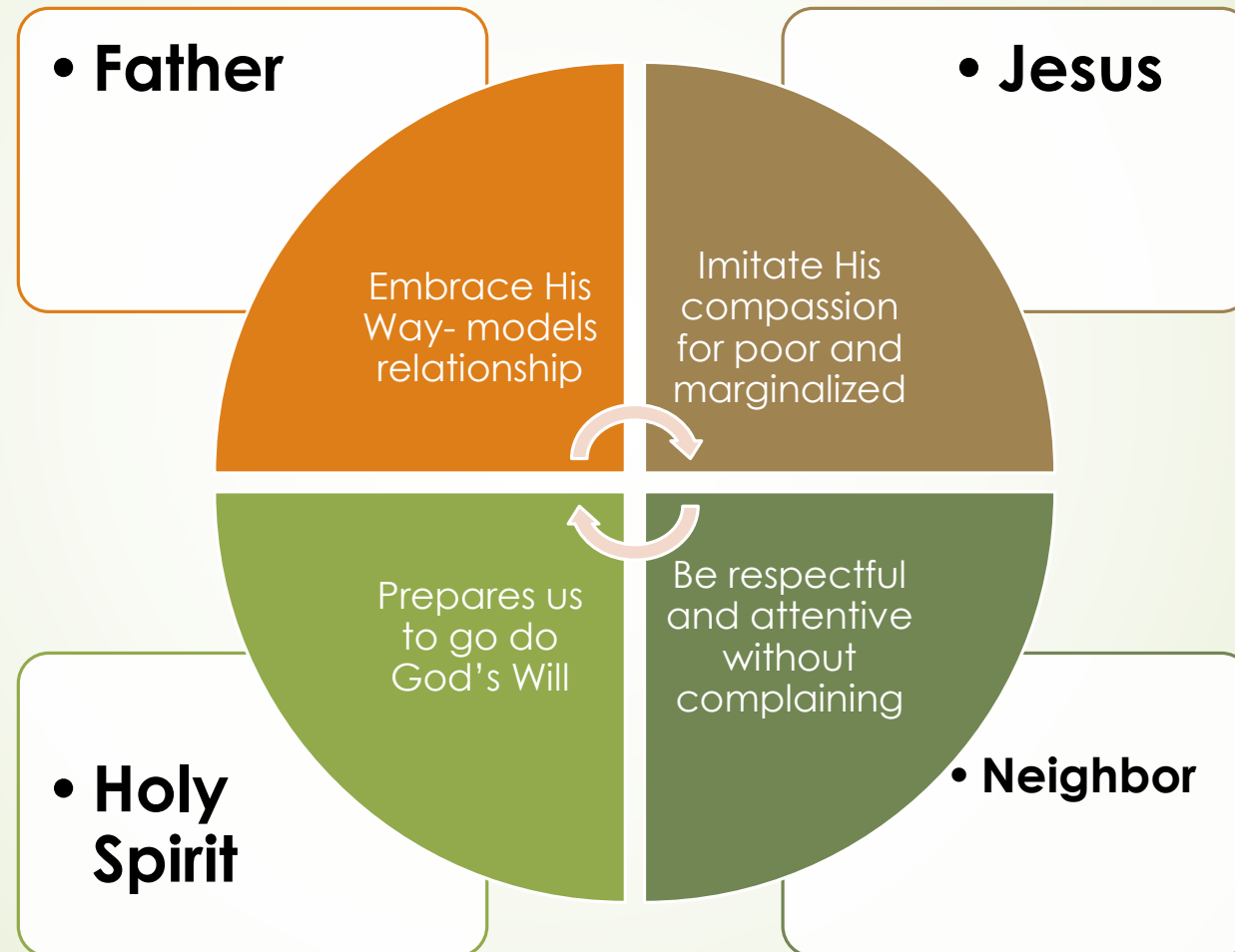
Complete conversion, turn from
self centeredness

Total change of heart & life – not
just some opinions and ideas

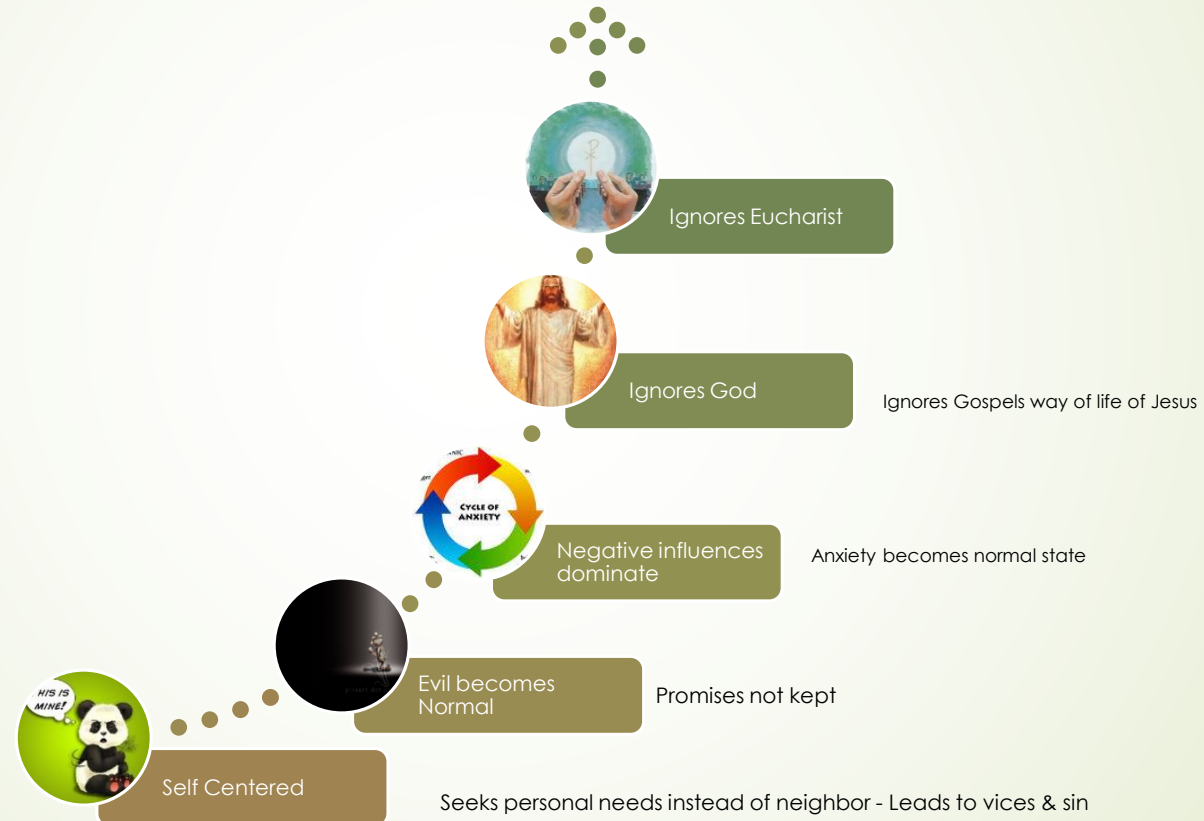
Follow the spirit of the Seraphic
Lover , Francis of Assisi

Love becomes
vital to us – as it
is to the Trinity

Scriptures support Francis' words in Prologue

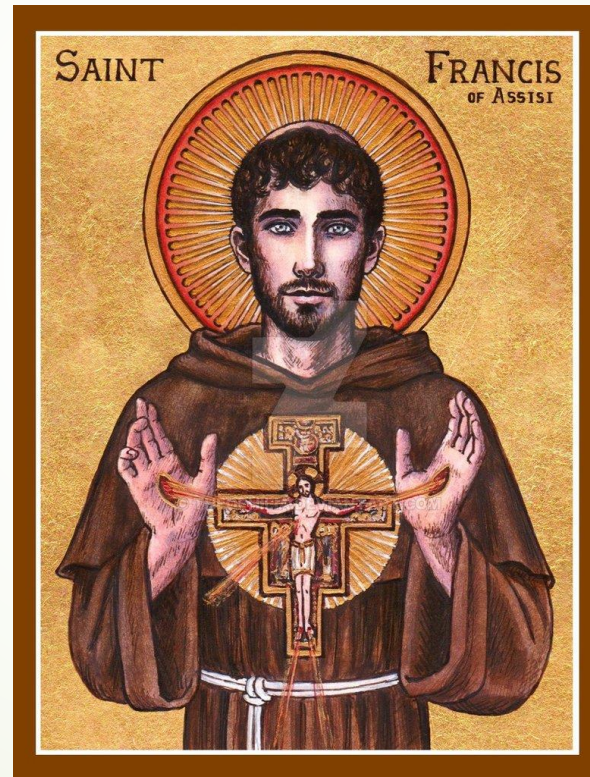


Those who do not do Penance



Francis' Exhortations must be taken seriously

(He uses extremes to make his point)



St. Francis gives his blessing at the end of his prologue.