

Franciscan Journey Chapter 8

Scripture in SFO Life



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Francis learned how to live from the Gospels

Gospel to Life – Life to Gospel

➤ His followers:

- Should not – Carry gold/silver/carry a walking stick, sack/bread/shoes or a second tunic
- Should – preach the Gospels, do penance, live according to the Gospels



➤ Franciscans Must:

- Study the Gospels & Sacred Scriptures

ON Going Formation – courses, gatherings & sharing

- Foster love for Gospels
- Help brothers and sisters understand it

RULE 4 – Listen, meditate, reflect on Word of God

Franciscans are **GOSPEL** People

Ignorance of Scripture is Ignorance of Jesus Christ

Authors

Mind Sets

Personal background

Times in which they lived

Most Important Life-Death-Passion of Christ

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Literary Styles

Historical

Prophetical

Poetical

Song

Parable

Symbol

Prayer

Scripture

Inspired by the Holy Spirit



Role of
Salvation

- God's Plan for Man

Unity

- Connections to Living Traditions

Catechism

- Guidelines for reading and understanding scripture

Trinitarian Spirituality

Franciscans:

- Differences need to be bridged
- Seek unity

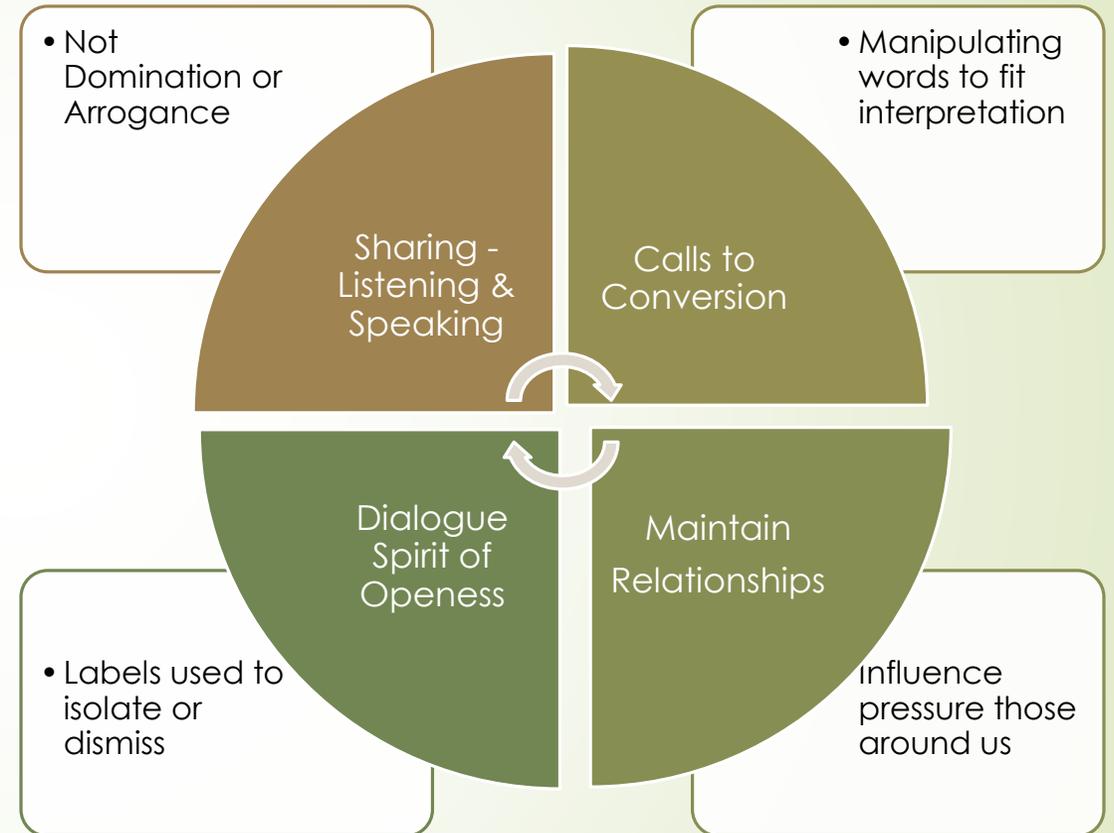
no matter what our bend might be -

Fundamentalist

Evangelical

Liberal

Conservative



Share Faith by Life & Work

Fundamentalist

May be literal interpretation of each word as written

May find text that exclude others from God's love

Private revelation may be a priority, may have theological differences among themselves

Catholic Church

holds that the book of Scripture is Truth without error

At the same time, interpretation needs to attend to the literary forms in which it is written.

Look for meaning – given time & culture of writer

Franciscan approach with LOVE, not insults

Evangelical

Some are strictly religion in response to Scripture

Others concern for social issues

Some concerned about religious practices

Concern for poor and marginalized is growing

Catholic Church

Assumptions and resumptons are roadblocks

Franciscans are called to a respectful approach to people

Choose to attract rather than winning!

Dialogue without argument

Attitude and perspective takes regular conversion



Rebuilding the Church – Evangelization Bringing the Good News to All

Evangelii Nuntiandi – Pope Paul VI

- ▶ Variety of Elements:
 - ▶ Renewal of Humanity
 - ▶ Witness
 - ▶ Explicit proclamation
 - ▶ Inner adherence
 - ▶ Entry into the community
 - ▶ Acceptance of signs
 - ▶ Apostolic initiative

Rule #19

- ▶ Messengers of Perfect Joy in every circumstance strive to bring joy & hope to others
- ▶ Local fraternity should be a privileged place to develop a sense of Church & the Franciscan vocation (*we are all a work in progress*)
- ▶ The “meat” is the life we live
- ▶ Live the Gospel – Love One Another!