



Dear friends,

In January 1971, a friend invited a few people to get together at his house. We all thought, as was normally the case, it would be to have a 'good time!' So, we were quite surprised when he greeted us at his front door, saying, "Praise the Lord!" We were all 'freaked out' and thought, 'What did he just say?!'

Once inside, he shared with great enthusiasm that he had become a Christian. He hadn't been raised as a Christian, but had now become one. We were sitting there, trying to understand what he was saying. Even more significant than what he was saying was that he was noticeably different. He was happy, peaceful, and enthusiastically telling us that Jesus was the source of this radical life transformation.



Although I didn't say it then, it was clear to me that he had changed.

Before we left, he offered us his remaining LSD, which he wouldn't be using anymore. He said, "you can have it, but I want to tell you it's second best." He repeated, "It's second best. It's not the one thing that will give you life." Then he looked directly at me and said:

"Dave, Jesus changed my life and he can change yours."

I tried to dismiss all that just happened, but the redemptive damage was done. The witness of his changed life and his joyful words of hope were convincing and impacted me greatly, although I didn't say anything at that time.

His obvious change of behavior and the joy he manifested in telling us this good news about Jesus, is an essential part of my own conversion.

A few months later, in March 1971, I returned to my friend's house and told him I wanted what he had, but didn't know how to get it. He simply told me to get down on my knees and tell Jesus, out loud, what I wanted. Because of my very real sense of personal desperation, I knelt down and simply prayed out loud, "Jesus help me!"

It was my turning to God, knowing I couldn't do it on my own. It was a turning from the way I'd been going and pleading with God to help me change. It was a turning from my sinful life, doing things the way many people I admired told me was the way to find meaning, love, and happiness. I now knew the way I had been living was entirely bankrupt, a dead end, and leading me further and further into darkness. And so, I cried out to God.

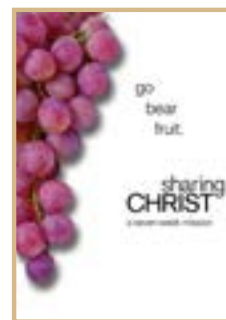
In that moment of surrender, I experienced the very personal love of God for me (Romans 5:5); I knew that I was forgiven for my sins (Romans 4:25), later I would go to confession. I now knew that I had power to change. This was not in my own strength, but given to me in the Holy Spirit (John 1:12; Acts 1:81).

When I said yes to Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit given in baptism was released in power! As we say in the Creed, I now said personally, "I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ!"

Because it was such incredibly good news to me personally, I wanted to tell everyone—if the Lord Jesus would do this for me, he could do it for anyone!

Now many years later, ChristLife provides a way to help others to personally encounter Jesus as Lord Jesus; follow him as disciples and make him known to the enormous number of people who don't know him.

We're producing a new edition of the Sharing Christ course!



This model of a friend sharing their experience of the Lord with another friend is the model that we employ in Sharing Christ.

This fall we are producing a new edition of Sharing

Christ! The Sharing Christ course is an essential part of what is needed for Catholics to fulfill our mission of proclaiming Christ to all.

In this new version, Pete Ascosi, ChristLife's Assistant Director, will take my place as a speaker on the course. Pete is a great teacher who lives what we are all called to be and do in sharing Jesus with others! He will be joined by Fr. Erik Arnold and Dianne Davis, who you know from the current edition.

Christ entrusted the Church with the essential mission to, "Go make disciples... baptizing them...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:18-20). The Father longs for all to be saved in and through his Son Jesus Christ and, we, his children, are called to make him known!

Please join us and continue to pray for the ChristLife process to help many come to know the Lord and to follow him as members of his Church.

Your brother, in the saving love of our Lord Jesus,

Dave Nodar
ChristLife's Founder & Senior Leader

BRINGING SHARING CHRIST TO A NEW GENERATION OF CATHOLICS

Twenty years ago, the first edition of Sharing Christ was developed to fill an urgent need for practical training in Catholic evangelism. At the time, ChristLife was training parishes to use a course to invite Catholics to encounter Jesus personally.

When parishioners were challenged to go out and invite fallen away Catholics and non-believers to this encounter course, many pastors heard the same hesitancy: "But, Father, we don't know how to evangelize. We were never trained." At the Vatican II Council, the Church placed a radical new emphasis on the call to all the baptized to evangelize.

The Council Fathers recognized the newness of this area for Catholics and called for training: "In regard to the apostolate for evangelizing and sanctifying men, the laity must be specially formed to engage in conversation with others, believers or non believers,



in order to manifest Christ's message to all men" (Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity).

Despite the Council's call for practical training in this area, few dioceses and parishes offered any formation in this area for many decades. Sharing Christ, first launched in 2005 and revised in 2013, filled a big gap for Catholic parishes.

An estimated 70,000 people participated in this course, leading to remarkable fruits. Here are several quotes from participants over the years:

“ I actually feel an urge to evangelize. I tell my story in the hope that maybe somebody else will come back to the Church like I did.”

DR. SAMPSON

“ Prior to ChristLife, I was scared to share my faith, but now I have extraordinary courage.”

CHRISTI

“ In my 45th year of priesthood, ChristLife is like a new pair of glasses that highlights spiritual treasures that have been hiding in plain sight. The faith story I composed at Christ Life has also been a helpful tool in my evangelization efforts.”

FATHER JAMES

“ I'm excited about what God has done through ChristLife. He's given me the tools to be more open, have relationships with people, and how to be an evangelist in the truest sense.”

TRICIA

“ In Sharing Christ, Jesus gave me the courage to joyfully share his love with others.”

JOHN

Third Edition

Recognizing the need to continue to help Catholics practically evangelize, we committed to filming the new edition this Fall. This new edition is the result of many months of hard work: collecting feedback on how to improve the course, piloting and revising the talks and course guides, selecting testimonies, and prepping for the filming production.

With this new edition, Dave Nodar is passing the baton to Pete Ascosi as a speaker, along with Father Erik Arnold, and Dianne Davis. The themes of the

course will stay largely the same. However, the speakers will be assigned new talks and bring new perspectives and updated illustrations to freshen the course. The talks will also include short vignettes that tell the story of someone's conversion or how they've been inspired to share Christ with others.

We are excited to bring high quality to this production through working with Coronation Media, a Catholic video production agency. The filming of the talks happened on October 25-26th, and the testimonies will be filmed November 15-16th.



Spring Launch

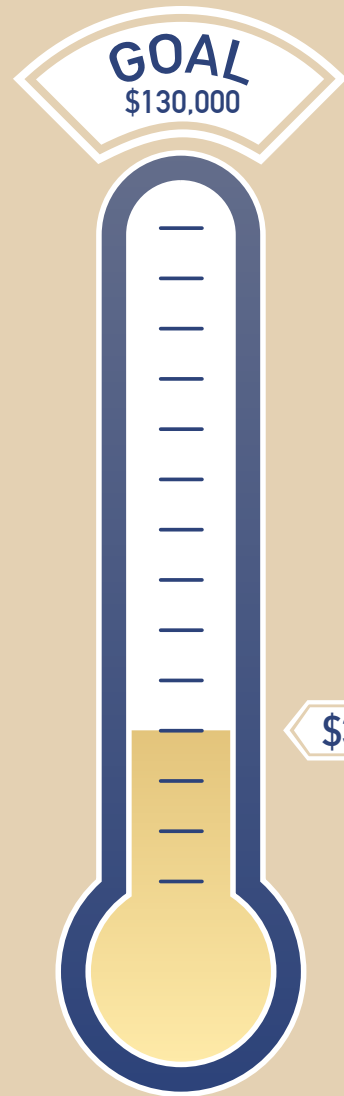
The plan is to launch the course in Spring of 2025. The course, along with Discovering Christ and Following Christ, will be available immediately to individuals for free on our website at this time. The new videos, with updated course guides, will be added to the Parish All Access Pass accounts at this time as well.

An Appeal for Your Help

Your help is needed to fully fund this course. Last year, thanks to brothers and sisters like you, we were able to fund the first phase of re-developing Sharing Christ along with a down payment to Coronation Media. The second phase of production and publication of the course will cost \$130,000.

Our deadline to reach our goal is December 31, 2024. If we fail to raise the funds, we will have to delay course launch. Please consider a generous gift so that we can bring this new course to the Church on time. The Lord Jesus has given His Church including you and me, an urgent summons to evangelize, to proclaim Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life.

Thank you for being a part of this great mission with us.



WE NEED

- ▶ 2 gifts of \$10,000
 - ▶ 5 gifts \$5,000
 - ▶ 8 gifts \$2,500
 - ▶ 10 gifts of \$1,000
 - ▶ 15 gifts of \$500
 - ▶ 30 gifts of \$250
- AND
- ▶ 100 gifts of \$100



Use the enclosed card or give online at ChristLife.org/give

ANSWERED PRAYER:

NEW WORKERS FOR THE MISSION

We are excited to announce the addition of two new missionary disciples to our staff! Elsa and Fernando are answers to prayer and are already making a big impact for the Kingdom.

I was born into a Charismatic Covenant Community and, at 14, I joined the Minor Seminary of the Legionaries of Christ in Southern Brazil. I remained with the Congregation for almost 9 years, having studied Liberal Arts in Cheshire, CT, and Philosophy in Rome. Upon returning to Brazil, I worked for five years at the National Office of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal – the largest Ecclesial Movement in Brazil – and later worked for a Catholic Television Station, as well as being in charge of Ecclesial Relations for Alpha International for the Brazilian Catholic Context.



Fernando Nascimento

Drawing from this experience, I can affirm that ChristLife is everything that Catholic Parishes and Communities most long for and need! There is a great thirst in the hearts of priests and leaders for tools that help: 1) in reaching out to and welcoming those who are distant; and 2) in discipling those who are already attendees;

The Brazilian clergy – especially the younger ones – are tired of Liberation Theology and its pastoral practices and long for tools that promote faith with integrity and, at the same time, lead people to an experience with Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. When I first encountered ChristLife... I saw that this was the tool we were looking for (and 100% Catholic!).



Elsa Merino

After studying philosophy and theology at Saint Jodard Institute in France, I began my career in Graphic Design and now specialize in digital marketing with passion for social media.

I have 20 years of experience in evangelization using the SINE method (Integral Evangelization System), and for 5 years I went on a week-long mission twice a year serving the poorest areas of Mexico. I've had the opportunity to evangelize many different types of people, from gangs to businessmen.

After attending two ChristLife National Training Conferences in Baltimore, I decided to commit to bringing ChristLife to México. I

have run ChristLife in four parishes in Mexico City and Cancun and have seen great fruit come from it as people's lives are changed by the Lord Jesus and the power of the Gospel.

I am excited about helping others experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and am already greatly enjoying serving ChristLife. ChristLife has already been such a blessing to me and I'm eager to see how God continues to work in my life here!



ChristLife is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are gratefully accepted in support of the essential mission of evangelization. All donations are tax-deductible.
www.ChristLife.org/donate

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