

Christ as the source and origin of apostolic activity

What has been your experience of "apostolic activity"? Have you experienced groups become overly focused on the practical details of their effort and lose sight of the bigger picture and the original motivation for their activity?

What is meant by the old scholastic dictum *action follows being*? How do we keep Christ at the center of our apostolic activity?

[Spiritual aids, especially active participation in the sacred liturgy,] are to be used by the laity in such a way that while correctly fulfilling their secular duties in the ordinary conditions of life, they do not separate union with Christ from their life but rather performing their work according to God's will they grow in that union. (AA 4)

How do we put this principle into practice?

Witnessing in the world by our lives and words

How have you experienced the laity *take up the renewal of the temporal order as their own special obligation (AA 7)*?

The most powerful witness we can give to the truth and value of the Faith is to show forth in our daily lives the good fruit that it produces. What good fruit does the Faith produce in our lives?

However, an apostolate of this kind does not consist only in the witness of one's way of life; a true apostle looks for opportunities to announce Christ by words addressed either to non-believers with a view to leading them to faith, or to the faithful with a view to instructing, strengthening, and encouraging them to a more fervent life. (AA 6)

What opportunities do we have *to announce Christ by words* to non-believers and to the faithful?