

THE WITNESS TALK AT ULTREYA

The purpose of the witness talk at Ultreya is to encourage your brothers and sisters in their efforts to become better apostles, in their efforts to be the Lord's instruments in the many environments they find themselves in - family, neighborhood, work and social. The witness should therefore be centered on our evangelizing efforts - of how the Lord is working through me to build up His Kingdom.

General sharing can always be inspirational and valuable, but the specific role you are filling is to witness to current evangelizing efforts. That, too, can be most inspirational and encouraging to the Ultreya pilgrims and is exactly what the Ultreya witness is all about: Recent evangelizing efforts.

What the Witness Talk should not be:

- a) It should not be sensational - no need for Cecil B. deMille productions in Ultreya witnessing.
- b) It should not be a sermon, nor should it be instruction in Catholicism.
- c) It should not be longer than five to ten minutes.
- d) It should not be too emotional. Emotions will be affected by a simple, sincere talk.

What the Witness Talk should be:

- a) It should be your life lived out as a Christian - how the Lord is working through you.
- b) It should be concrete and practical, carried out in the normal flow of your life.
- c) It should be centered on and be about Christ, how you were His instrument.
- d) It should be centered in the present, not something that happened six months or more ago.
- e) It should be descriptive - explaining who, how and what of the details necessary to make your witness clear.
- f) It should concentrate on one or two points, rather than a series of examples.
- g) It should be as informal as if you are sharing it with a friend - you are!
- h) A brief Scripture passage should be used that will tie into your witness.

The Gospel of John (1:38-39) says that Andrew and another disciple of John the Baptist asked Jesus where He lived, and He answered: "Come and see." It continues, "They went where He lived and remained with Him that day." The events that followed show that those two men went and saw; they lived together and encouraged each other in Christ. They then went on to bear much fruit. This then, is the witness we share at Ultreya: The fruit we bear through Christ living in us.