

Bill Thomas

I had hesitations about joining the pilot group because I wasn't sure it was 'my thing'. I'm glad I didn't listen to that little devil of doubt and followed what I believe was an invitation from the Holy Spirit. This was a one of those experiences in your faith life you say, 'why didn't I know or hear about this before?'

As someone who is a cradle catholic, and believed myself to be engaged in my faith, and even to a higher level in the past several years, I was amazed by what I did not know! Now that I've experienced the program, I don't understand why every faithful catholic is not going thru this education.

There is no doubt in our teaching; Christ doesn't 'suggest' we evangelize, he 'demands' it. Prior to this experience, I understood that and spiritually always wondered 'how' I was to evangelize. Because standing outside my office building with a mega-phone, reading bible verses, is not my calling.

'Called and Gifted' opened my eyes to how I was being called to evangelize. Discovering the Charism(s) or gifts God specifically gave me, not only allowed me to understand my personality, but realize that my personality and traits were due to my Charism(s). So, with this knowledge I now understand how God is calling me to spread the gospel.

Now that I've completed the program, as cliché as it may sound, I have a sense of peace that I am on the right path. Granted, God did not give me a specific road map, but he did provide me a compass. This is a process and requires patience, but it's wonderful knowing I am on the right path, and I just need to be patient and preserver as I discern and develop my charism(s).