

Casting Nets Ministries

# The Soul of the Evangelist

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## Casting Nets

Grow Your Faith by Sharing Your Faith



Chris Stewart  
and Tony Brandt

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## The Soul of the Apostolate

By: Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard O.C.S.O.

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## Make Me an Instrument

- "If the priest is a saint (the saying goes), the people will be fervent; if the priest is fervent, the people will be pious; if the priest is pious, the people will be at least decent. But if a priest is only decent, the people will be godless. The spiritual generation is always one degree less intense in its life than those who beget it in Christ." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 39)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- "It has been pointed out, and with truth, that a physician of the body can heal the sick without being well himself. But to heal souls, a man must himself have a healthy soul, because in order to heal them he has to give them something of himself." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 115)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- "Let us consider the mortal life of Our Lord, a perfect realization of the divine plan. Thirty years of recollection and solitude, then forty day of retreat and penance are the prelude to His brief evangelical career. How often, too, during His apostolic journeys, we see Him retiring to the mountains or the desert to pray." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 45)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- "The believer becomes one with Christ and participates in his fruitfulness. The man who believes and loves with Christ becomes a well that gives life. That, too, is something that is wonderfully illustrated in history: The saints are oases around which life sprouts up and something of the lost paradise returns. And ultimately Christ himself is always the well-spring who pours himself forth in such abundance." (*Jesus of Nazareth*, pg 248.)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- "Prayer is the source of grace. Preaching is the channel that pours out the graces we ourselves have received from heaven. The ministers of the Word of God have been chosen by the Great King to carry the people of the earth what they themselves have learned and gathered from His lips, especially before the Tabernacle." (*Soul of the Apostolate*, pg 191.)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- St. Bernard, "If you are wise, you will be reservoirs and not channels." The channels let the water flow away, and do not retain a drop. But the reservoir is first filled, and then, without emptying itself, pours out its overflow, which is ever renewed, over the fields which it waters. How many there are devoted to works, who are never anything but channels, and retain nothing for themselves, but remain dry while trying to pass on life-giving grace to souls! "We have many channels in the Church today," St. Bernard added, sadly, "but very few reservoirs." (*Soul of the Apostolate*, pg 53)

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## Operatio Sequitur Esse

Operation Follows Upon Being

- "It would be an even greater mistake to devote oneself to the conversion of souls while forgetting one's own salvation. God wants us to love our neighbor as ourselves, but *never more than ourselves*, that is, never to such an extent that we harm our own soul." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 41)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- Pope Benedict XVI reflects on Moses, "It was only because he spoke with God himself that Moses could bring God's word to men." (Jesus of Nazareth, pg 265.)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "Educators [ie anyone who brings the Gospel to others], because we lack in intensive inner life, are unable to beget in souls anything more than a surface piety, without any powerful ideals or strong convictions." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 39)

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### You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "Those who pray," said the eminent statesman Donoso Cortes, after his conversion, "do more for the world than those who fight, and if the world is going from bad to worse, it is because there are more battles than prayers." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 35)

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### You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "Orators, leaders, lectures, catechists, and professors: we have all had nothing but mediocre success simply because there has not been, about us, a strong enough reflection of nearness to God." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 189)

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### You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "That their apostolate will be successful only in the measure that they themselves live that supernatural inner life of which Thou art the sovereign PRINCIPLE and Jesus Christ the SOURCE." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 3)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "For you can be sure that the extent to which you yourself are able to live on the love of our Lord will be the *exact measure* of you ability to stir it up in others." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 57)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "A short but fervent prayer will usually do more to bring about a conversion than long discussions of fine speeches." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 35)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "The efficacy of an apostolate almost invariably corresponds to the degree of Eucharistic life acquired by a soul." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 186)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "Let us imagine a St. Vianney in every one of our dioceses. Before ten years, our country would be regenerated, and much more completely regenerated than it could be by any number of enterprises without firm foundation in the interior life, even if they were supported by unlimited funds and by the talent and activity of thousands of apostles." (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 38)

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## You Cannot Give What You Do Not Have.

- "When a preacher or catechist retains in himself the warm life of the Precious Blood, when his heart is consumed with the fire that consumes the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, what life his words will have: they will burn, they will be living flames! And what effects the Eucharist will have, radiating throughout a class for instance, or through a hospital ward, or in a club, and so on, when the ones God has chosen to work there have nourished their zeal in Holy Communion, and have become *Christ-bearers!*" (Soul of the Apostolate, pg 185)

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“Casting Net Ministries is a response to the New Evangelization. It's a dynamic mission designed to help form Christian disciples to know, love, and serve all the poor of the Gospel. I highly recommend Casting Net!”  
- Bishop James D. Conley, Diocese of Lincoln

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