



Helpful Hints for Men of St. Joseph Speakers

Below are suggestions on how to prepare to present the Sunday Gospel.

1. Find a quiet place where you will not be disturbed.
2. Pray, "Father, I am here to submit to your will. My words will be your words, my thoughts your thoughts. I am yours. Use me as you will."
3. Read the Sunday Gospel
 - a. Open yourself up to the Gospel message. To help you, consider the following questions:
 - i. Is there "one key message" in this Gospel reading that speaks to you?
 - ii. Does the reading have an application to your role as a father, husband, or grandfather?
 - iii. How is it relevant to the other areas of your life (work, friends, culture, etc)?
 - iv. How can the lesson of the Gospel be practically applied in our everyday lives?
 - v. How does the reading relate (if at all) to the mission of the Men of St. Joseph to "put the family in the hands of The Father"? Our mission means we should turn over our lives into the Heavenly Father's hands, and in doing so become spiritual leaders. *Does the Gospel have any relation to this mission?*
 - b. If needed use resources to guide you through any questions you might have.
 - i. Catechism
 - ii. List of on-line resources (below)
4. Presenting the Gospel.
 - a. Keep it personal. Speak from the heart – we want to hear from YOU not just the words some theology professor wrote in a book. This is not a theology lecture.
 - b. Keep it practical. How can we use this Gospel to affect our everyday lives?
 - c. Keep it short – Under 10 minutes.
 - d. Don't read. Obviously it's fine to use notes to guide you, but avoid reading verbatim.
 - e. Be passionate. Remember if you sound like you care, your audience will care. If you sound like you are bored, your audience will be as well.
 - f. Have fun. You are not giving a eulogy. Enjoy the moment.



On-line Resources

- www.usccb.org/nab (Monthly and Daily Mass Readings and Holy Scripture from United States Council of Catholic Bishops)
- www.catholic.com (Excellent resource for all things Catholic)
- www.salvationhistory.com/homily_helps (Scott Hahn with audio)
- www.kofc.org/un/catechism/index.action (On-line search engine for Catechism)
- www.newadvent.org (website with Catholic encyclopedia and on-line Holy Bible)
- www.menofstjoseph.com/faqs.php (Men of St. Joseph resource page)

Other Resources

Catholic Answers Apologist Line 1-619-387-7200 (Ask to speak to an apologist and get your answer!) They are very helpful, and very willing to assist.