

Evangelizing Catholics

Mike Gendron

ProclaimingTheGospel.org (817) 379-5300

Why Is the Roman Catholic Church a Mission Field?

According to its teachings, Catholics worship and trust “another Jesus” who did not finish the work of redemption and believe “another gospel” which leaves them dead in their sin (2 Cor. 11:4).

Expect a Stubborn Resistance

Indoctrination is a captivating power that causes resistance to God’s Word.
Religious pride may be Satan’s most powerful tool to blind people (2 Cor. 4:4).

Indoctrinations and Obstacles to Overcome

Catholics believe they belong to the one true church
They are utterly dependent upon their priests
They believe baptism is the means of regeneration
There is family pressure to remain Catholic
Many have never studied the Scriptures

RC Traditions that Distort the Gospel

They teach Mary is a sinless mediatrix and the cause of salvation.
Good works are necessary for justification
They reject the promise of the Gospel which is eternal life.
They continue the work of redemption that Jesus finished on the cross.

Seven Keys for Witnessing to Catholics

1. Establish God’s Word as the Supreme Authority (2 Tim. 3:16; Hebrews 4:12).

Exhort Catholics to read and trust God’s Word as the only infallible source for truth on this earth.

It is our protection from deception. We must always test the uninspired words of men with the inspired Word of God!

Our words are void of power and authority. Scripture possesses divine power to convict human hearts, expose sin and reveal one’s need of a Savior.

2. Proclaim the Gospel **and Its Promise**

It is eternal – the same message for every generation (Rev. 14:6).

It is exclusive – all other faiths and religions are false (John 14:6).

It is according to Scripture alone - no other source (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

It has divine power - to save those who believe it (Rom. 1:16).

It is of grace – those who add anything are condemned (Gal. 1:6-9)

It promises eternal life (1 John 5:13)

No one who has been born again of incorruptible seed can ever die again
(1 Pet. 1:23).

No one who is kept by the power of God can ever fall away (1 Pet. 1:5).

No one who has been perfected forever can be imperfect (Heb. 10:14).

No one God justifies can ever be condemned (Rom. 8:1,30)

Which Gospel Will Catholics Believe?

one offers a righteousness you can not lose, the other leaves you condemned
by a law you cannot keep

one says Christ work of redemption was finished, the other says it must continue

one says "DONE" the other says "DO"

one says justification is declared instantly, the other must be pursued until death

one puts you on the narrow road to heave, the other keeps you on the broad
road to destruction.

3. Declare the Sufficiency of Jesus (1 Cor. 1:30; Heb. 10:10, 12, 18; John 19:30)

He did everything necessary to save sinners completely and forever!

By a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified
(Heb. 10:14).

He made us alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions
(Col. 2:13)

The Jesus of the Catholic Church Is Not Sufficient

He did not save sinners completely

He did not give the assurance of salvation

He did not pay sin's complete punishment

He did not purify all sins

He returns physically to the earth daily to be offered on altars for sins

He did not finish the work of redemption

He did not redeem man from the laws curse

He is not the only sinless mediator

He is not the only Way

4. Teach Antithetically

Throughout Scripture we see a vivid contrast between truth and error. People
need to repent of religious lies to believe God's truth.

The fact that all religious beliefs and practices are diametrically opposite with no
middle ground is a powerful truth.

With opposites we can make profound conclusions.

With shades of gray no profound conclusions are possible.

5. Pray...

for the salvation of those blinded by religious deception (Rom. 10:1)

for words to be given to fearlessly make known the Gospel (Eph. 6:19)

for God to open doors and hearts for us to proclaim Christ clearly (Col. 4:2-4)

for wisdom and to make the most of every opportunity (Col. 4:5-6)

6. Declare All Sins Are Mortal (Venial Sins are a Lie of Satan)

Catholicism perpetuates the first lie of Satan with its doctrine of venial sin. In the Garden the devil promised Eve she would not die if she disobeyed God (Gen. 3:4).

In the same way, the Catholic clergy deceives its people with the lie that "venial sins" do not cause death, only temporal punishment.

Catholicism's Trilogy of Deception is venial sins with purgatory and indulgences.

7. Call Sinners to Faith and Repentance

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen (Heb. 11:1).

Repentance is a change in mind that produces a change in direction after hearing the truth. It is granted by God and results in a turning from sin and self to God (2 Tim. 2:25).

Discipline Yourself To Be Spiritual Doctors

Give people the true diagnosis. They inherited a fatal disease called sin and there is no human cure. But there is a divine cure that is free for the asking!

Show People You Care by Asking Questions

What is the most important decision you face in this life?

What is the greatest gift you've ever received?

Where will you spend eternity?

How do you hope to get to heaven?

Have you ever been born again?

Is purgatory necessary to purge your sins?

Why did Jesus have to die?

Are you ready to meet your creator?

Why do priests continue on an altar what Jesus finished on the cross?

If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

Do you know the only way God will forgive your sins?

Are you trusting what Christ has DONE or what you DO to get to heaven?

What does your church teach about salvation?

Witnessing Reminders

Address the primary problem – sin

Avoid preaching and arguing, seek to have a balanced conversation

Define terms biblically

Some reject the Gospel because it means their ancestors are in hell Luke 16

Success is faithfulness to do God's work, God's way, for God's glory.

Whenever we give the Gospel verbally, we must always leave a Go

Make the most of every opportunity to glorify God through His Gospel. Let us be mindful of the shortness of time, the nearness, of death, the realities of eternity, and the doom of unbelievers.