



Why Dominican?

Study Guide for Candidacy Module 8: Study and the Passion for Preaching

The purpose of the Candidacy phase of formation is to provide individuals with the opportunity to participate in continued discernment of Dominican life as a lay person. Essential to this process is an understanding of the place of Study in the main apostolate of preaching in the life of a member of the Dominican Laity.

PRAYER/CONTEMPLATION

Before you begin to read, process, and apply the materials assigned for this module, ask the Holy Spirit to give you the graces to clear your mind of pre-conceived notions and limitations about study and preaching. Trust that the Holy Spirit will replace them with the wisdom and confidence of a beloved child of God.

STUDY

The study session will be a collaborative working session to craft a preaching based on the readings below and a designated Scriptural text. The Formation Team will identify the text to be analyzed according to the module “The Dominican Approach to Sacred Scripture and Tradition” and who among the group will analyze it beforehand. It is recommended that everyone read the first reading from fr. Timothy and the readings from fr. Brian. The Formation Team will determine whether all or some of the letters from the Masters of the Order will be read by all or just some of the Candidates. The readings include:

“The Wellspring of Hope” by fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP available at:

<http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Radcliffe/wellspring.html>

“Go Tell My Brothers! Dominican Women and Evangelisation” by fr. Bruno Cadore’ OP available at:

<http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Cadore/Go%20tell%20omy%20brothers!.html>

“Proclaiming the Gospel in the Order of Preachers” by fr. Carlos Aspiroz Costa OP available at: <http://www.dominicans.ca/Documents/masters/Costa/proclaiming>

As you jot down notes from the readings, also take the time to contemplate the direction they seem to indicate for “holy preaching”.

It is also recommended that everyone read the following pages from *I Put My Words into Your Mouths* by fr. Brian Pierce OP, Victor Morales and the Dominican Team, 1995, 2002. This material is shared with the explicit written permission of fr. Brian Pierce, OP and made available by him in Study Guide Supplement 1 for this module. It is not to be reprinted or distributed for use outside of *Why Dominican?* unless you obtain fr. Brian’s written permission.

- a. “With a Newspaper in Our Hands” pages 33-36.
- b. “The View from the Mountaintop” pages 37 – 40.
- c. “A Knapsack Full of Creativity” pages 41- 46.

The last reading entitled “Beggars of the Word” is a short article also by fr. Brian Pierce OP. This article was originally published in *Living Pulpit* and is shared with the explicit written permission of fr. Brian Pierce, OP and made available by him in Study Guide Supplement 2 for this module. It is not to be reprinted or distributed for use outside of *Why Dominican?* unless you obtain fr. Brian’s written permission.

The evening before the actual study session, re-read the Scripture text that will be used in preparing a preaching. Contemplate possible themes based on the other readings.

COMMUNITY

The actual study session will be an excellent example of community in action. Participants will work together in groups to outline and perhaps actually write a preaching based on the text chosen. This will be a practical way to listen and be listened to in respectful dialogue within the framework of collaboration.

APOSTOLATE

There are many ways to preach. Actually crafting a reflection or homily will be an experiential opportunity to hear each person’s voice and use his/her talents in one important way.