

## Analyzing Doctrine: Teaching the Essentials

“remain at Ephesus that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine,<sup>4</sup> nor to occupy themselves with myths and endless genealogies which promote speculations rather than the divine training that is in faith;<sup>5</sup> whereas the aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith.<sup>6</sup> Certain persons by swerving from these have wandered away into vain discussion,<sup>7</sup> desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make assertions.

(1 Timothy 1:3-7 RSV)”

### Premise

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ truth
- 2) Not always the simple \_\_\_\_\_, but something that tells you what the \_\_\_\_\_ is.
- 3) Example –Album of Family Pictures = \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Sets the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, you could wrap up with.
- 5) Implies a \_\_\_\_\_ concept of doctrine. That it is \_\_\_\_\_ to the other essential truths of the faith.

### Essentials

- 1) The things that you can't leave to chance that they will \_\_\_\_\_ on their own.
- 2) How can your \_\_\_\_\_ make this compelling?.
- 3) You are rolling out the wonderful \_\_\_\_\_. This is the \_\_\_\_\_. Let your passion show.
- 4) Proper Balance in good Catechesis
  - A) Catechesis: \_\_\_\_\_ that is necessary for salvation.
  - B) Theology: \_\_\_\_\_ upon revelation-you don't have time for this.
  - C) Private Revelation: Approved by the Church's Magisterium, there place is \_\_\_\_\_
  - D) Popular Piety: Practices that are normally good and encouraged, but not \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) You only have time for the \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ that let them unlock this for a lifetime. You \_\_\_\_\_ have time for correct packaging

### Common Misunderstandings

- 1) Preparing a catechist to answer and understand the common misunderstandings forces \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Several Levels
  - A) Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.
  - B) Define \_\_\_\_\_ as necessary.
  - C) Not necessarily what you have \_\_\_\_\_ in your journey.
- 3) This aspect of Catechesis is the \_\_\_\_\_ to catch their attention and keep it.
- 4) Nothing \_\_\_\_\_ the catechist, and it is their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to the group that places doctrine in the context necessary to teach for conversion.

## Scriptural Basis

- 1) What is going to \_\_\_\_\_ this lesson vs. just backing it up (proof texting)
- 2) Let scripture have the \_\_\_\_\_ say and then you \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Properly understood \_\_\_\_\_ doctrine is grounded in Sacred Scripture.
- 4) Gives them a \_\_\_\_\_ and fits them in the \_\_\_\_\_

## Related Doctrines

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Catholicism vs. Solid \_\_\_\_\_ of faith
- 2) Dogmas are \_\_\_\_\_ along the path of faith – illuminating it and making it \_\_\_\_\_. (CCC 89)
- 3) This relationship among doctrines is called the \_\_\_\_\_ of Truths.

## Activities

**Activity #1 :** *Consider the Differences among the following ways of beginning a statement of truth.*

- 1) “Purgatory is for souls who, at the point of death, receive from their Lord purification from the temporal effects of sin”
- 2) “The Church teaches Purgatory is for souls who, at the point of death, receive from their Lord purification from the temporal effects of sin”
- 3) “We as Catholics believe that purgatory is for souls who, at the point of death, receive from their Lord purification from the temporal effects of sin”
- 4) “Purgatory is thought to be for souls who, at the point of death, receive from their Lord purification from the temporal effects of sin”
- 5) “Some in the Church feel that purgatory is for souls who, at the point of death, receive from their Lord purification from the temporal effects of sin”

**Activity #2:** *For each of the following statements, consider what mistake is being made by the catechist speaking and what they are confusing with catechesis.*

- 1) “We’ve read in Matthew 20:18-19 that Jesus predicted his crucifixion to his disciples. As modern scholars tell us, this and similar ‘prediction’ texts from the gospels were put on Jesus’ lips after this death to bolster the belief that he was more than a man”
- 2) “You may have heard about Mary’s appearances to five young teenagers a city just south of here. There Mary told us that world events in the past ten years forewarn us of the immanent end of the world, and gave the five teenagers a really beautiful prayer that will shield you from danger. Here’s a copy for you to pray.”
- 3) “Here’s the correct way to receive Holy Communion, genuflect just before you approach to receive the sacred. Host, and receive it on your tongue. “

**Activity #3:** A) Make a list of 10 common Catholic terms (not technical terms such as transubstantiation) that are likely to be unfamiliar to a non Catholic. B) What are the common misunderstandings that exist in our culture about Angels, Baptism, Priesthood? C) What are the common misunderstandings that exist in your group?

**Activity #4:** Identify the Premise, Essentials, Common Misunderstandings, Scriptural Basis and Related Doctrines of the 5 Golden Threads.