

Name _____

Your Missionary Role

Jesus sends every baptized and confirmed Christian into the world to continue his work. Not everyone, of course, has the vocation to set off for foreign lands. Even so, the Holy Spirit does empower every one of us to witness to Jesus—in our families, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and nation.

What kind of missionary are you? Here are some key qualities of good missionaries. Rate yourself on these items. Check column 1 if the item fully describes you, column 2 if you exhibit the trait partially, column 3 if you never exhibit this trait.

		1	2	3	
1.	Courageous:	I'm willing to take risks.			
2.	Endure Pain:	I can endure physical or mental pain for a worthy cause.			
3.	Stand Alone:	I can remain firm in my beliefs and not feel threatened even when no one agrees with me.			
4.	Respectful:	I appreciate others' gifts.			
5.	Creative:	I'm adaptable and can find new ways to do things.			
6.	Enjoy People:	I genuinely like all types of people.			
7.	Love of the Lord:	Jesus is number one in my life.			

- What other quality do you believe is essential to be a missionary for Christ? Add it to the list and rate yourself on it.
- Use the space below and the back of this handout to write about a time you shared your faith with another person.

Name _____

A FINE LINE

There's a fine line between separation, integration, and assimilation. When people move to a new country, they have to make some difficult decisions about where they stand on that line.

- **They could remain separate.** If people choose to do this, they would live with people from their own group, speak their own language, and retain their own foods, music, religion, and mode of dress.
- **They could integrate into the larger society.** If people choose to do this, they would hang onto their own roots, keep some of their "old" ways, but also include some of the culture from the new environment—the food, drink, dress and the like—in their way of living.
- **They could assimilate.** If people choose to do this, they would abandon most, if not all, of the old traditions and ways of life in favor of the traditions and customs of the new country.



SEPARATION

INTEGRATION

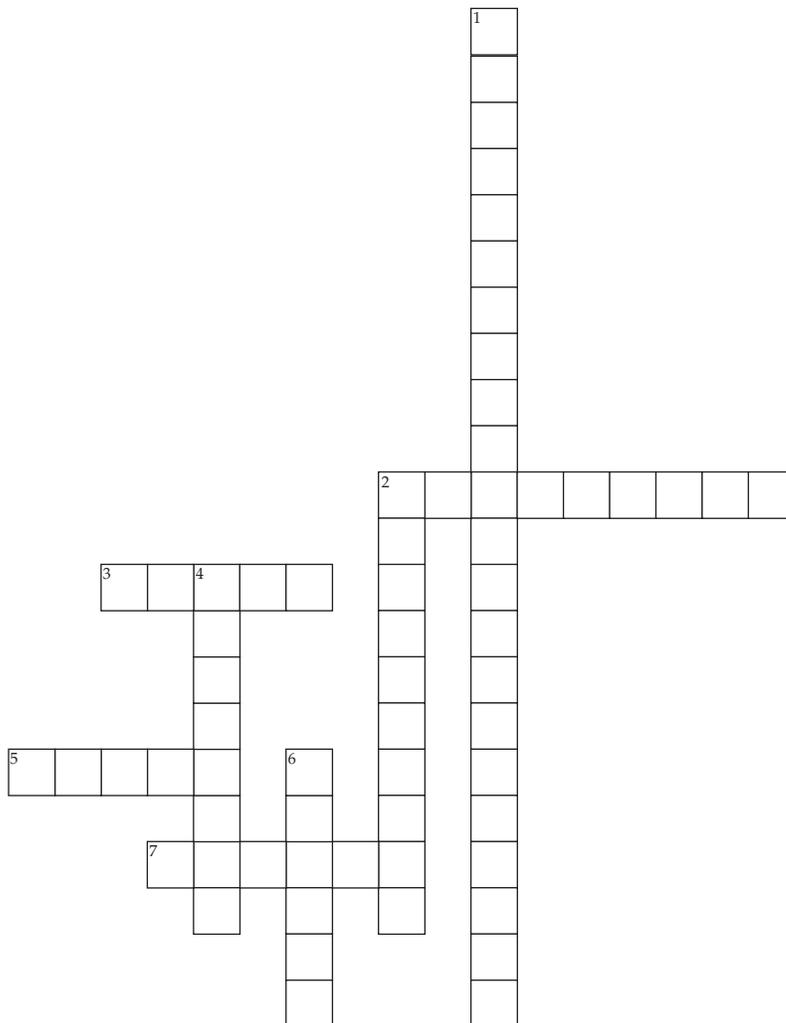
ASSIMILATION

1. Mark a **Y** to show where you see yourself on the line.
2. Mark a **P** where you believe your parents stand.
3. If a friend stands apart from you on the line, show his or her position with an **F**.
4. Mark an **R** where you think Catholics *are* standing on the line.
5. Mark a **C** where you think Catholics *should be* standing on the line.

Name _____

A Distinctively American Catholicism Puzzle

Check the clues and complete the puzzle.



Clues

Across

2. One of the largest missionary orders in America.
3. The initials of the organization originally called the National Catholic War Council.
5. The ethnic group that was most eager to fit into American culture.
7. The cardinal who ended segregation in the Catholic schools of St. Louis.

Down

1. Founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin (3 words).
2. The kind of territory the U.S. was considered until 1908.
4. Catholic priest who used the radio to spread fear and play on people's prejudices.
6. Where most Catholic immigrants settled.

Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

1. The human person is sacred

Human life is sacred, and the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society.

- Name at least three ways you (and your family) respect the life and dignity of people.
- Name a social service agency that supports the sacredness of the human person—an agency with which you can partner.

2. The human person is social

The person is not only sacred but also social. People have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all.

- How do you stay connected to others?
- Whom do you know who needs a friend? What can you do about it? What will you do about it?

3. The human person has rights and responsibilities

Human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met.

- How can someone your age advocate for the rights of others—rights like food, shelter, healthcare, education, and so forth?
- Do you think you have a responsibility to be such an advocate?

4. Option for the poor and vulnerable

The basic test of a society's morality is how its most vulnerable members are faring.

- What do you do to care for the poor and vulnerable?
- What more could you do? Make a list and then choose to do something.

5. The dignity of work and the rights of workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of participating in God's creation.

- Do you know where the "things" you buy come from? If not, find out.
- Do the people who make your shoes, your clothes, your video games make a fair wage? If they don't, what does that mean for you?

6. Solidarity

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions.

- What are some mission programs that reach out to help our "world neighbors"? (for example, FINCA or The Heifer Project)

7. Care for God's creation

Creation is for the good of all. Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith.

- What are you doing—*really doing*—to care for the earth?