

# Witness Evangelization Plan

## Opening Lives to the Light of Grace

### Want to go further with this book?

The Witness Evangelization Plan enables communities of faith to share their Stories of Grace, forming witnesses who reveal Christ's light to others. This plan draws from the book *Witness: Learning to Tell the Stories of Grace That Illumine Our Lives* by Leonard J. DeLorenzo, PhD, of the McGrath Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame.

Ideal for parish, diocesan, and school settings to support:

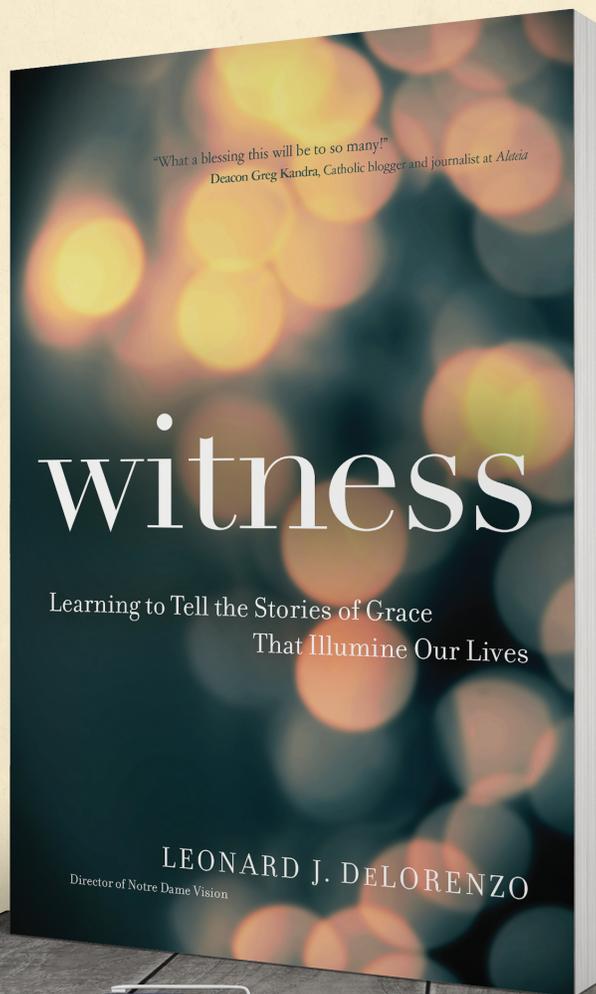
- Adult faith formation
- Catechist enrichment
- Faculty in-services and days of reflection
- Parent outreach and engagement
- College campus ministry
- Young adult ministry
- Ministry to teenagers (when adapted)

The Witness Evangelization Plan is customizable to suit your needs in consultation with Dr. DeLorenzo.

**“The Stories of Grace gave [my students] new perspective on their peers, even people they had known for years.”**

—Joseph Augustyn

Campus Minister, Brother Rice High School, Chicago, IL



Interested in inviting Dr. DeLorenzo to speak? Visit [leonardjdelorenzo.com](http://leonardjdelorenzo.com) for more details.



### A note from the author...

With the book *Witness*, I tried to articulate why telling and listening to Stories of Grace is so important, while also offering guidance about how to craft these stories. My goal with the Witness Evangelization Plan is to help ministers and teachers lead people into actually crafting these stories. I know as well as anyone that one of the biggest gaps is between intention and practice—that is, between desire and follow through. This plan is a follow-through mechanism for what the book *Witness* presents with the ultimate goal of enlivening faith and forming missionary disciples.

Visit [leonardjdelorenzo.com](http://leonardjdelorenzo.com)  
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# Sample Layout

PREPARATION: READ "INTRODUCTION & CHAPTER 1" OF *WITNESS*

## SESSION 1:

### Lost and Found in the World Today

**Presentation:** *"We Don't See What We're Missing But We Miss What We Don't See"*

#### Facilitated Discussion and Small Groups

How to begin to identify Stories of Grace

#### Listen and Respond to a Story of Grace

Podcast with reflection questions provided

#### Follow-up:

- Read Chapter 2 of *Witness*
- Listen to a Story of Grace via podcast
- Two journaling sessions on beginning to identify Stories of Grace

## SESSION 2:

### Disciplined Creativity

**Presentation:** *"Crafting Stories in Light of Grace"*

#### Guided Study and Group Discussion

The 7 Principles for Stories of Grace

#### Contemplating Stories from Scripture

Reading guide and discussion starters

#### Follow-up:

- Read Chapter 3 of *Witness*
- Journaling session on stories from others
- Dedicated silent prayer
- Begin crafting your Story of Grace

## SESSION 3:

### Finding Each Other in God's Word

**Presentation:** *"The Glorious Risk of Being Present"*

#### Group Discussion

On Christ Being Made Present;  
On Being Made Present in Christ;  
On the Challenges of Presence

#### Listen and Respond to a Story of Grace

Podcast with reflection questions provided

#### Follow-up:

- Read Chapter 4 of *Witness*
- Journaling session on settings for stories
- Finish crafting your Story of Grace

## SESSION 4:

### Becoming the Witnesses We're Called to Be

**Presentation:** *"And You Shall Be My Witnesses"*

#### Sharing Stories of Grace in Groups

#### Final Conversation

Where and With Whom to Share Stories of Grace

#### Follow-Up:

- Reflect on the experience of sharing your Story of Grace (journaling possible)
- Reflect on the other Stories of Grace you heard
- When appropriate, write notes of gratitude to the storyteller(s)

Find at least one person who was not part of this program with whom you can share your Story of Grace...then go do it!

**"Through reading *Witness* and spending this time led by Dr. DeLorenzo, my students learned how to see God at work in the very real stuff of their lives, and they gained confidence in sharing their faith and stories with others."**

—Jessica Mannen Kimmet

Coordinator, Embody Summer Theology Institute  
Saint Mary's College

**And you shall be my witnesses** (Acts 1:8)



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**CHURCH LIFE**