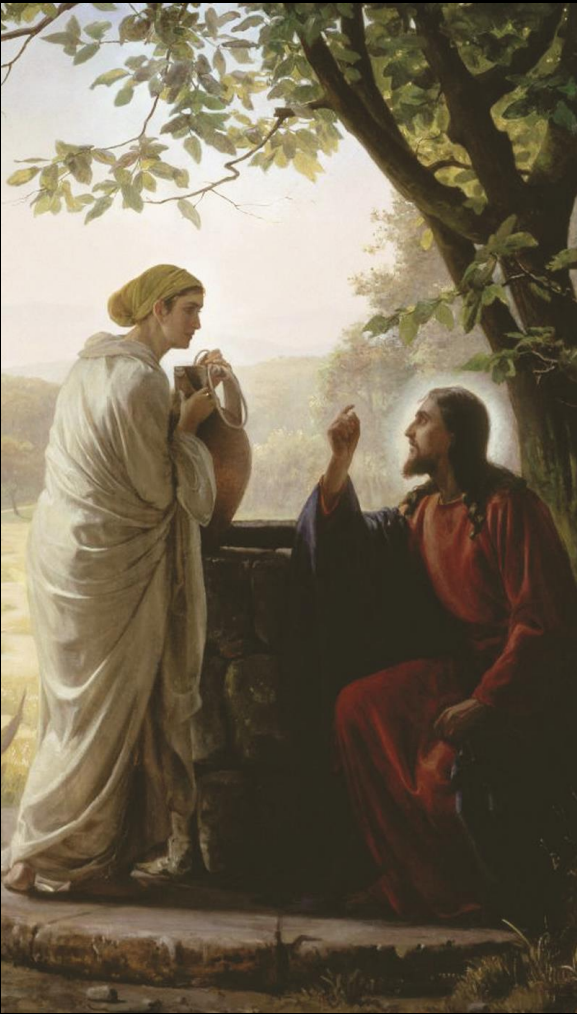


The Great  
Story:

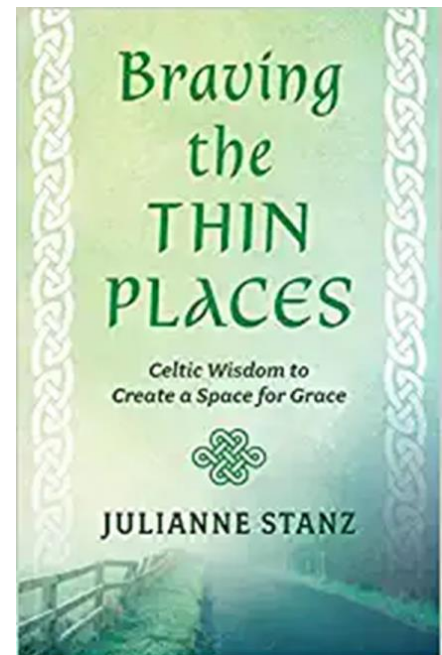
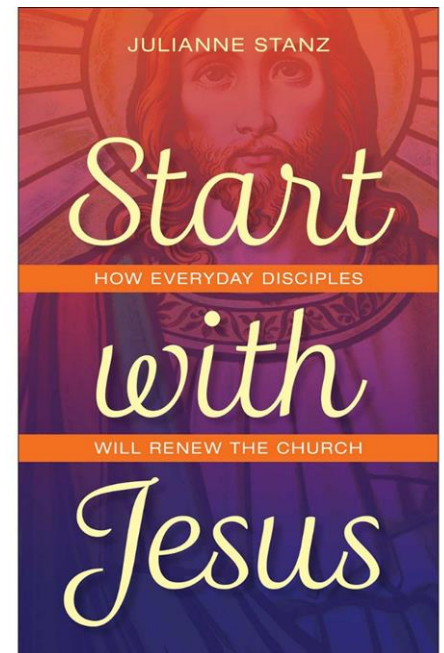
The Heart of  
Discipleship













But the Greatest of  
These is Love

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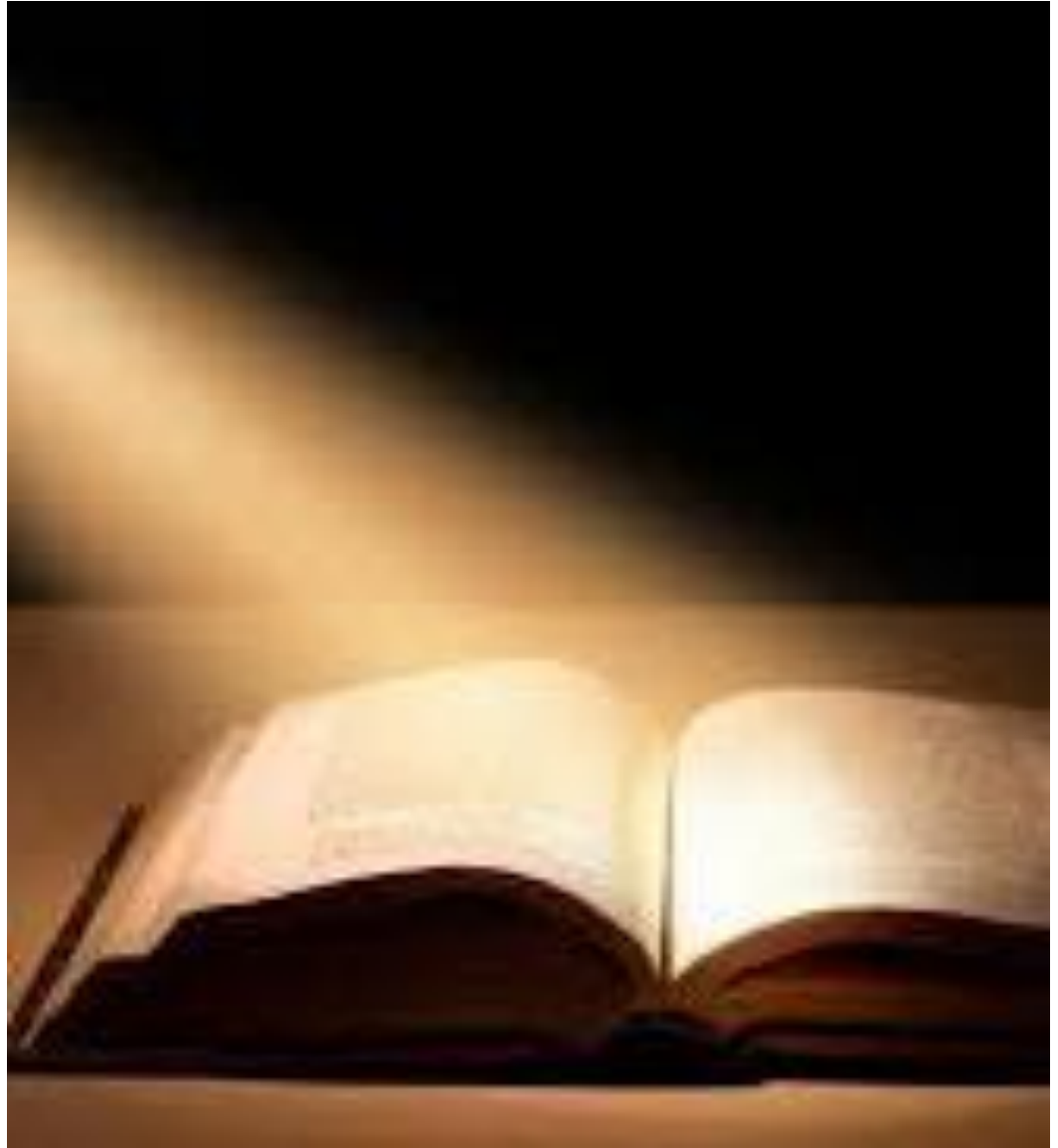


Let's talk about the  
news....

# The Gospel of the Lord



- There are two Irish words for “word” - focal and briathar.
- Focal. See focloir which literally means a “word place” - a dictionary.
- Briathar which means word but also ‘verb’.
- The Word of God is ‘Briathar De’ – or literally verb of God.
- Suggests “activity” – not just letters on a page . God is with us and doing things in our midst.



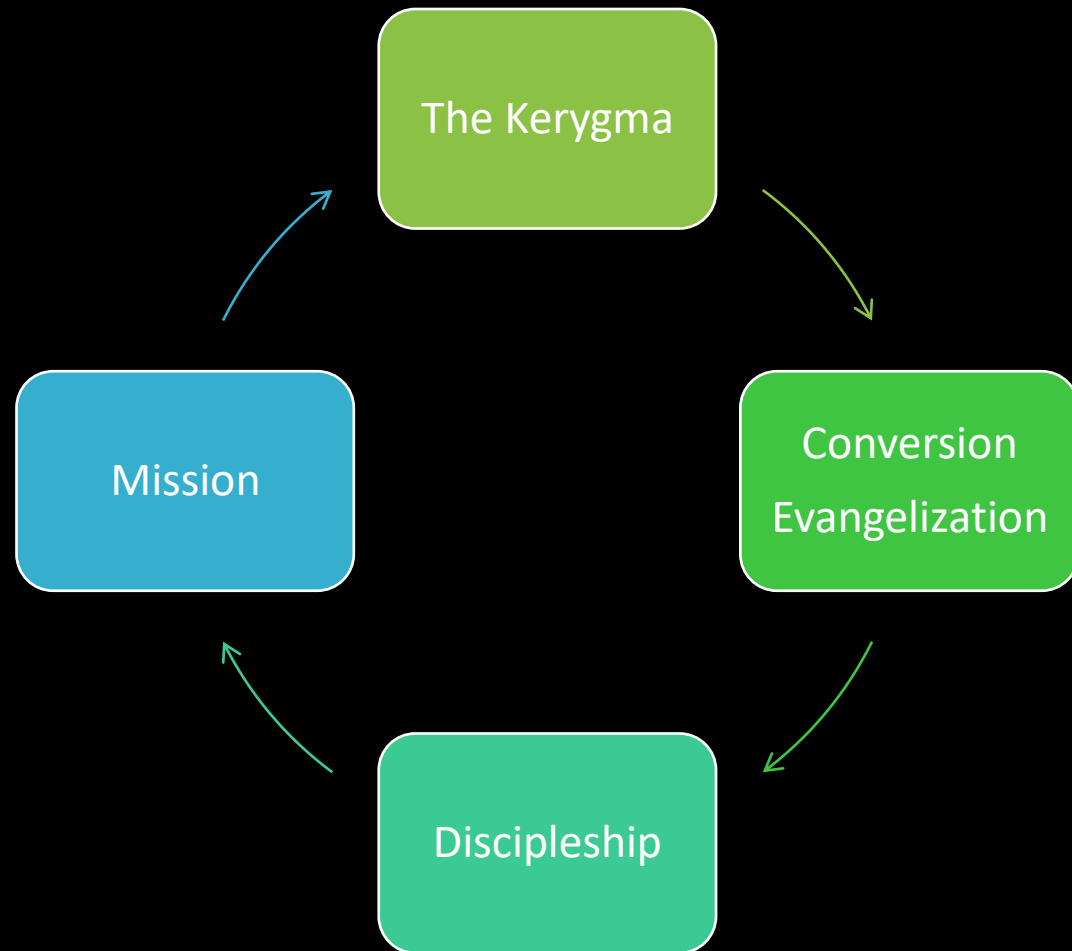






# Push Versus Pull Strategies

# How do we awaken disciples?





Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them [the crowds] in parables?"


**The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do *not* perceive, and hearing they do *not* listen, *nor* do they understand.'** (cf. Is 6:9-10)

**For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes;** so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn--and I would heal them.'

Adapted From Matthew 13:10-17

Image: Elias Baron  
The Literary Times




The background of the slide features a close-up of two hands, one from the left and one from the right, gently cupping a small, glowing white sphere. The hands are silhouetted against a warm, golden-brown light that emanates from the sphere, creating a soft, ethereal glow. The lighting is diffused, with the warm tones of the light blending into the darker areas of the hands and the background.

We share the Gospel by  
proclaiming the basic story of  
salvation which is called the  
kerygma.



# The Story Begins



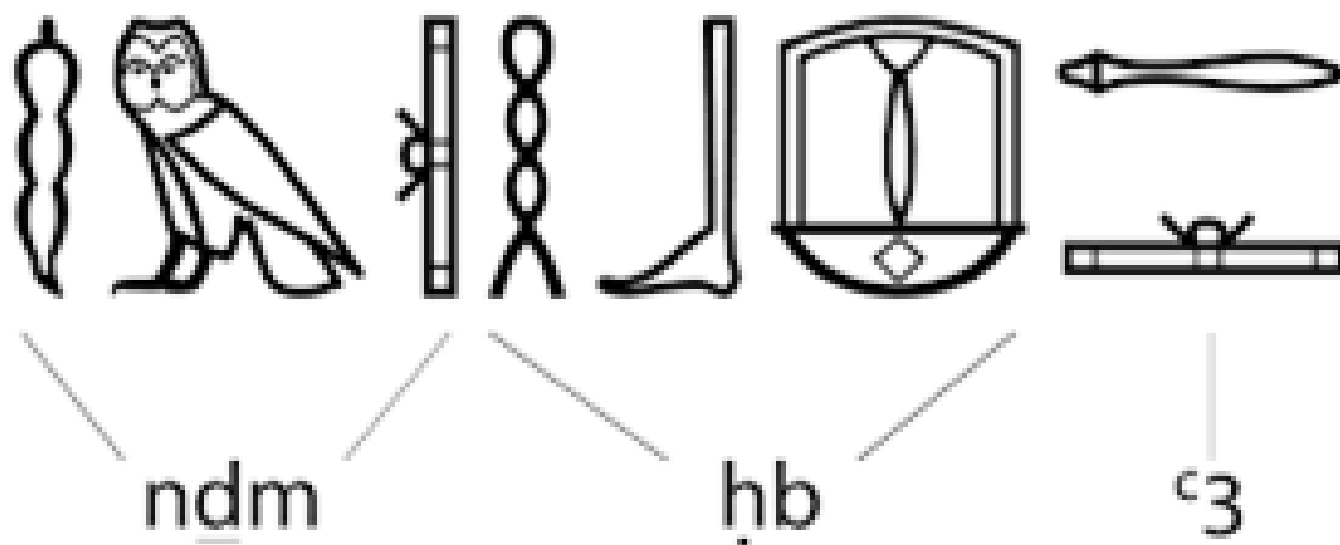


Human beings  
are at heart  
storytellers.



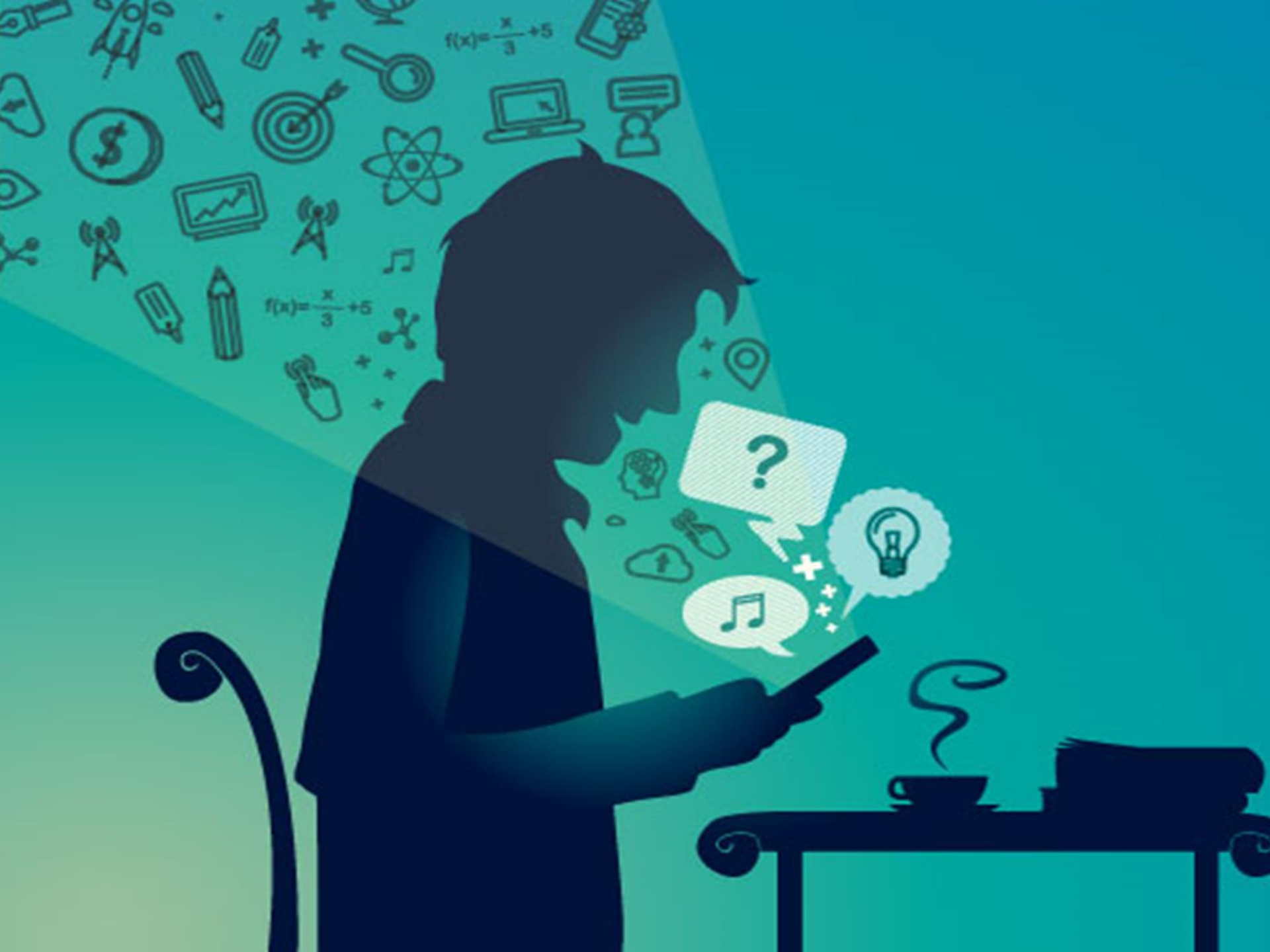
**Braving the Thin Places**

*Celtic Wisdom to Create a Space for Grace*

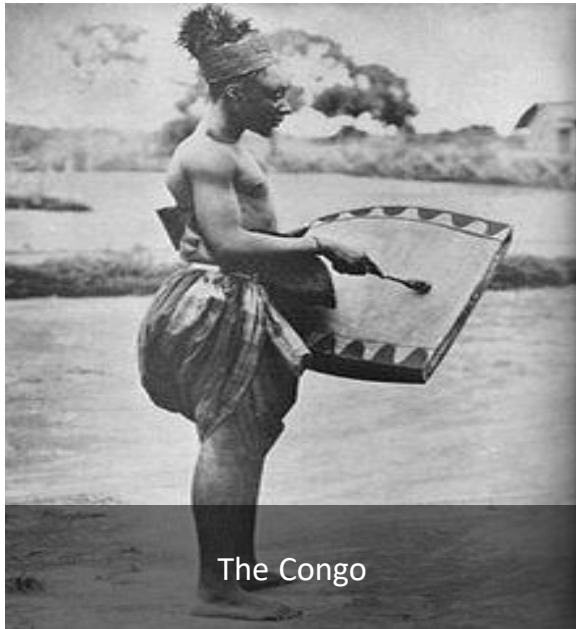


"A great festival is joyous/fun"

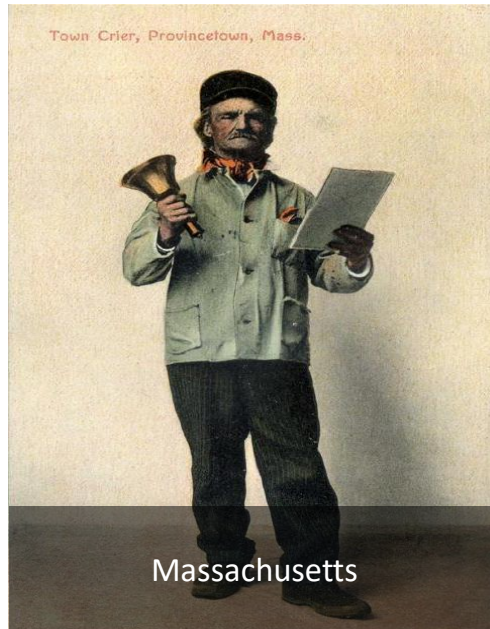








The Congo



Massachusetts



England





**KERYGMA** (from the Greek *keryssein*, to proclaim, and *keryx*, herald) refers to the initial and essential proclamation of the gospel message. The word appears nine times in the New Testament: once in Matthew (12:41), once in Mark (16:20), once in Luke (11:32), and six times in the letters of St. Paul (Rom. 16:25; 1 Cor. 1:21, 2:4, 15:14; 2 Tim. 4:17; and Titus 1:3)



“Evangelization will also always contain - as the foundation, center, and at the same time, summit of its dynamism - a clear proclamation that, in Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, who died and rose from the dead, salvation is offered to all men, as a gift of God's grace and mercy.”

- EVANGELII NUNTIANDI, 27 -



# NICK'S STORY





A close-up photograph of a clear glass jar tilted on its side, spilling a large quantity of small, round, yellowish-brown mustard seeds onto a dark, textured wooden surface. The seeds are piled up in a large mound in the foreground and are still falling from the jar's opening. The background is a blurred wooden surface.

**Be the Mustard Seed  
-Anonymous**



things I cannot

Amen

change, the

courage to change

the things I can,



the things I can





ANDREA MANTEGNA

ITALIAN, 1431-1506.



A close-up photograph of a clear glass jar tilted on its side, spilling a large quantity of small, round, yellowish-brown mustard seeds onto a dark, textured wooden surface. The seeds are piled up in a large mound in the foreground and are still falling from the jar's opening. The background is a blurred wooden surface.

**Be the Mustard Seed  
-Anonymous**









# Kerygma Recipe

THERE ISN'T A FOOLPROOF  
RECIPE THAT CAN BE REPLICATED  
EXACTLY BUT HERE ARE THE FIVE  
ESSENTIAL MOVEMENTS.

Creation.

Fall.

Redemption.

Salvation.

Re-creation.

Excepted from *Start with Jesus: How Everyday Disciples Will Renew the Church*, Julianne Stanz


LOYOLAPRESS.  
A JESUIT MINISTRY





What difference has Jesus made to my life?



- 
- Between 1999 and 2017 among Americans aged 25-64 the rates of:
  - Drug overdose increased fourfold.
  - Rates of suicide increased 38.3%
  - Midlife deaths from alcoholic liver disease grew 40%.
  - Alcohol poisoning deaths rose fourfold.






On the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: “Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.”

(EG, 164)







Activity: Think about someone you love. How would you explain the kerygma to them without using the word kerygma?



A 3D rendering of a red puzzle piece standing out among a sea of white puzzle pieces. The red piece is in the center, slightly raised, and has the text "The Kergyma Must be Embedded in All Parish Efforts" written on it in white. The white pieces are arranged in a grid-like pattern around the red piece, with some pieces missing, creating a sense of a larger puzzle.

The Kergyma Must be  
Embedded in All Parish Efforts





Mario Minniti,  
The Five Wounds of Christ,  
The Man of Sorrows

- The Church will have to initiate everyone – priests, religious and laity – into this “art of accompaniment” **which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other** (cf. *Ex* 3:5).



- The pace of this accompaniment must be steady and reassuring, reflecting our closeness and our compassionate gaze which also heals, liberates and encourages growth in the Christian life.



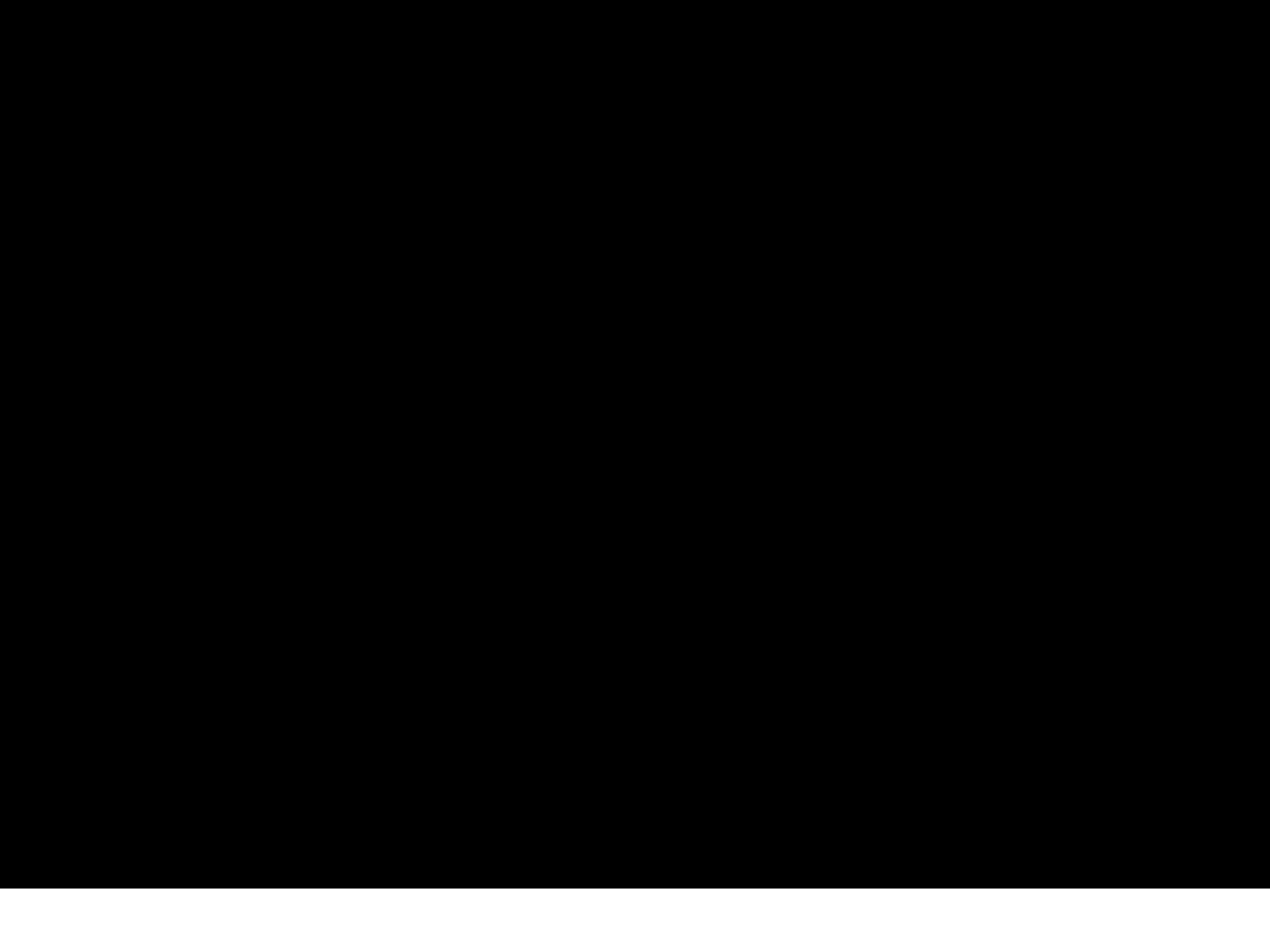




“Do not come any closer,” God said. **“Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”**

Exodus 3:5







Pain that is not transformed is transferred

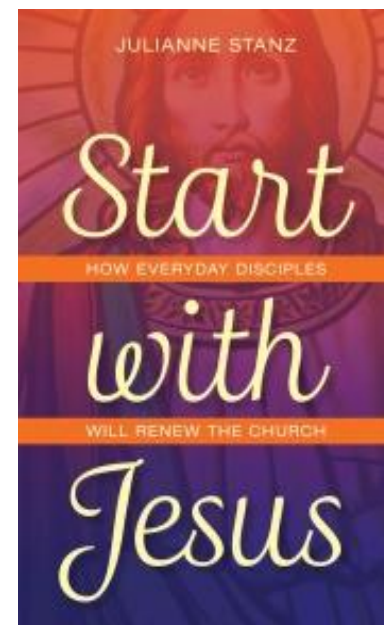
A large, stylized stained glass window featuring a portrait of Jesus Christ with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue robe with a red sash. The background is a warm, reddish-orange color with a grid pattern.

# Basics of Renewal

HOPE  
HEALING  
HOSPITALITY

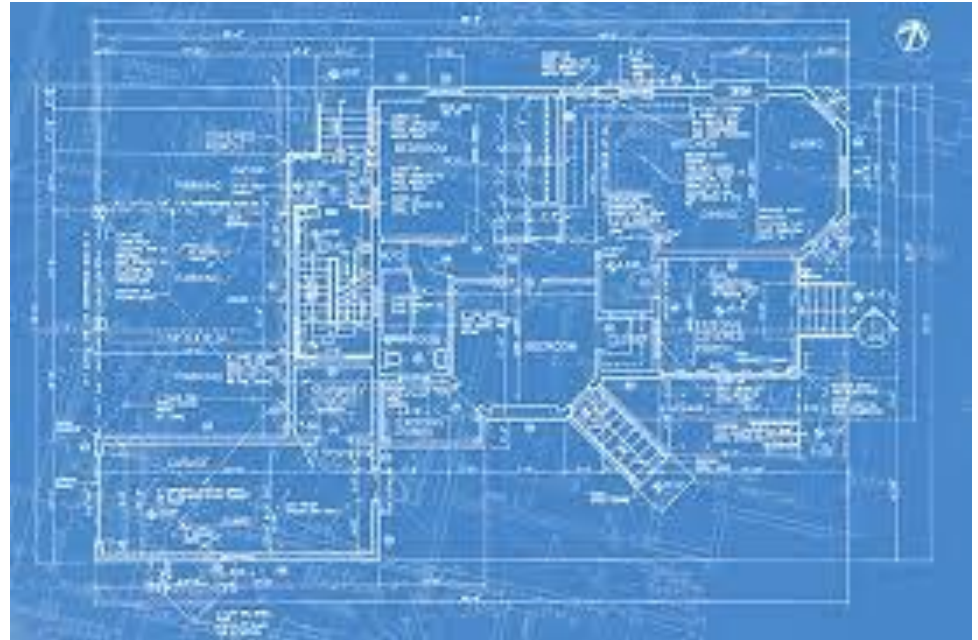
*Excerpted from Start with Jesus: How Everyday Disciples Will Renew the Church, Julianne Stanz*

LOYOLAPRESS.  
A JESUIT MINISTRY





“ The architecture of the kerygma depends on the audience, the maturity, and the degree of receptivity of the hearers. Spend time thinking about which movement of the kerygma the person(s) might be familiar or not familiar with and what their response to the story has been up to this point in their life.”



# Our Story Takes on Meaning in the Light of the Great Story



*"When **My Story** Encounters **God's Story** and becomes **Our Story** we begin to see our lives within the grand story of Salvation History."* - Tom McGrath

# What's *Your* Story?

“Whether you were baptized as a child  
or joined the Church as an adult,  
*you have a story of faith.*”

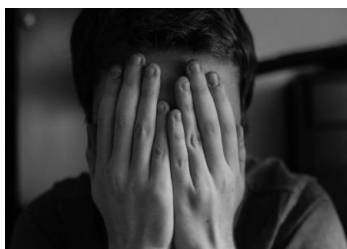
Whether you sincerely live your faith in quiet  
or have a great public ministry,  
*you have a story of faith.*

Whether you have a grade-school knowledge of the catechism  
or have a theological degree,  
*you have a story of faith.”*

- Go and Make Disciples, USCCB








I was.



God did.



I am.



# Mary Presenting Jesus to the World

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# Thank You

## The Catholic Parents' **Survival Guide**



STRAIGHT ANSWERS TO  
YOUR KIDS' TOUGHEST QUESTIONS

**Julianne Stanz**



[www.juliannestanz.com](http://www.juliannestanz.com)

## Braving the **THIN PLACES**

Celtic Wisdom to  
Create a Space for Grace



**JULIANNE STANZ**

