



Essential Evangelization

Holiness

Did you ever think of yourself as a saint? If you are "heaven bound" - YOU WILL BE A SAINT SOME DAY! Being "heaven bound" includes the very simple and basic faith in Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of your life. That He died for you and you are sorry for your sins because you love Him.

Beyond this basic first step however, and if we are to grow in our Christian faith walk, is the ultimate goal of holiness. Webster defines the term "holy" as: "*exalted or worthy of complete devotion as one perfect in goodness and righteousness.*" Well, if you are like most of us Catholics, "perfect" is a very tall order. So tall, we might just want to throw in the towel right there! But does that mean we should not at least **strive** for perfection in our Christian life? But how do we start?

Did you know that Michael Jordan did not make his high school basketball team? His coach said he was weak on his free throws. That day Michael decided that he would not go to bed until he made 500 free throws - and every night thereafter. That is not 500 free throws, but 500 free throws that actually made the basket. He did this for 10 years and became the greatest basketball player of all time. And so it is with our faith life - and for anything worthwhile in life. We have to work at it.

The reasons the saints were ultimately so winsome and evangelizing was their holiness. Most of them did not start there however. There were some very worldly and sinful characters in the bunch that are now a part of our great Catholic Communion of Saints! They did it one day at a time, by increasing in prayer and simply replacing their bad habits with good ones. They went to confession often to confront their sins. It has been said that Blessed Pope John Paul II went to confession every day. Could we just start once a month for a great life change?

"This is the will of God, your holiness....."
1 Thess 4:3

*This is one of a series of articles on
Evangelization from the
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