

Examples of Conversion Engines

The Alpha Course	ChristLife	CCO Faith Study Series	Christians Encounter Christ (CEC)	Small Groups
Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 sessions in small groups with a weekend retreat Each session includes a meal, video, and small group discussion 	Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 sets of 7 sessions (a total of 21 sessions) Each session includes a meal, video, and small group discussion The first 7 sessions include a weekend retreat 	Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A series of 5 small group study booklets Each booklet has material for 6-10 sessions Need one leader and ideally 6-10 participants for each small group 	Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A retreat experience over a 2 ½ day weekend Includes talks, prayer, small group discussion, and songs 	Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders in the parish facilitate kerygmatic-centered groups Can use various resources depending on the needs of the participants Ideally 6-10 people
Benefits/Limitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free videos with a high production value May be more comfortable for non-Catholics Large support network 	Benefits/Limitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs \$1,200 for the full kit (3 sets of DVDs, materials, and parish license) Natural progression from encounter with Jesus, to growing discipleship, to spirit-filled evangelization 	Benefits/Limitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost is \$11.95 for a leader guide and \$8.95 for each participant guide Relatively easy to begin A good resource to use in conjunction with retreats like CEC and Welcome 	Benefits/Limitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No cost to the parish Requires personal initiative of the participant to get into a small group for ongoing discipleship Not necessarily grounded in the parish community 	Benefits/Limitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No cost to the parish Focus on building leaders Connected to the parish and run by parishioners No time limitations Without a missional vision, can turn inward

General Instructions and Keys for Success

- In making disciples, our principles will never change, but we must continually reexamine and reimagine our methods to ensure ongoing effectiveness.
- There is no silver bullet — the method we employ to make disciples at any given time will depend on our unique circumstances.
- We should ask ourselves regularly: “What is the surest way to bear the most fruit among the people the Lord has called me to in this specific time and place?”
- No conversion engine can stand alone — it must be part of a larger, clear path of discipleship in the parish.
- Seek out an experienced mentor to help you implement a particular conversion engine.
- Unless you build a culture of invitation to move parish outsiders through your conversion engine, you will short-circuit your efforts.
- Identify and equip new leaders to replace your current leaders, and help each person to take their next step as a disciple of Jesus.