

ADVICE ON GIVING A TALK

Your talk must show you and your life, not just the outline. You will share it in combination with other talks in such a way as to present the caterpillars with a meaningful encounter with Christ during the Chrysalis Weekend. You are preparing to share your life and your relationship with God with your brothers/sisters. You are a saint with a desire to becoming a better one. What you say is vital and necessary to all present because they also desire and hope to grow, making a life fully Christian, conscious and growing the ideal of everyone present, and your gift is the one thing most needed at that particular time.

The whole Chrysalis movement is concerned with providing the Church with a team of believers ... a sharing, working, building, praying team convinced that their efforts do change their environment and the world. Your talk need not be sensational. It must not preach, and it is not to be a vehicle for you to display your ability (or lack of same!) for public speaking. Your talk is a sharing of your faith and relationship with Christ your purpose is to bring others to "know and love Him," too. This is true even though, for instance, the IDEALS talk doesn't even mention Christ, and other Friday talks are low-key.

The Chrysalis context and the conditions in which you will present your talk are structured so that the whole three days' is effective as a concentrated course. It is very important that each team member understands that there are certain things to be included in their talk and things left for someone else to say.

It is presumed that you, are living what you teach. What you don't know, you cannot effectively communicate; what you don't live, you haven't experienced and cannot share truthfully. The text of the talk is built on prayer, study and experience, so keep it clear, bright and within everyone's understanding. Consider the 15 talks of the three days as one, of which you have a part, and cover only your part. Each talk progresses through the Chrysalis weekend, low key the first day to high key the third. Keep your talk within its proper octave and on the proper key.

An effective speaker is the one who knows where his or her talk is leading. Give the caterpillars a road to follow without side-tracking. The talk should do two things: explain part of a picture, and inspire the candidate to live what is presented. It is not given simply to say something good, but to say what must be said. Good references to use are the Bible, Christian books and your own experiences. Use the examples with care, just to explain your point. Be sure they are relevant and pertinent to your presentation and this particular Chrysalis weekend.

Each talk, to be effective, depends on: 1) its objective (the main points of the outline); 2) its style, technique and manner of presentation...that's you!; 3) its situation, how it is related to previous talks and the whole; and 4) its own environment...The general feeling or mood at the time of its presentation. To prepare your talk, read the outline and determine the main points. The main points in relation to your life and write them down. Fill in with details and pertinent examples, then practice your talk as a prayer. Prepare yourself with prayer and sacrifice; open and close with prayer; use posters and visual aids if possible. Keep your talk within 15-20 minutes. Relax and have fun!