

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING A SECUELA

PURPOSES

- To give pescadores continuing support to persevere in their walk in grace.
- To give continued support and encouragement in bearing the fruits of the Tres Dias experience and in our calling as Christian leaders.
- To foster and express unity among all Christians.

The **two essentials** of a Secuela are the Fourth Day talk and the Floating Reunion Groups.

Secuelas are usually held monthly at various churches in the area. The post-weekend committee will:

- Arrange appropriate date and site with host churches
- Announce upcoming dates, usually by newsletter, to encourage attendance.
- Provide sample liturgies or agape samples, if requested.
- Assist the host leader with any needs.

LEADER'S INSTRUCTIONS

PREPARATION

The appointed leader in the host church has the following responsibilities **well in advance of the Secuela**:

- Work with the post-weekend committee as required on arrangements.
- Secure a Fourth Day speaker and provide them with a copy of the Fourth Day Talk guidelines.
- See if clergy is available. This will determine whether communion can be served. If clergy is unavailable, decide whether an agape or prayer service would be appropriate.
- Involve as many pescadores/cursillistas from the host church as possible to help with setting up, refreshments, opening prayer, scripture, fourth day speaker, music and cleanup. This makes it easier for you and more enjoyable for them. Be open to including pescadores/cursillistas from other churches that might not be able to host a Secuela.
- Request songbooks and banners as desired from the post-weekend committee.
- If at all possible, have sound equipment for the podium. There are some members of our community who are hearing impaired.

The appointed leader has the following responsibilities **just prior to the Secuela:**

Oversee physical set up of the refreshment area.

Have areas ready for reunion groups, with rooms or areas numbered and chairs provided.

Provide elements for liturgy, communion or agape.

Provide blank name tags, cups, napkins, ice and refreshments as required.

Any expense not covered as palanca may be submitted to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

The appointed leader should do the following **during the Secuela:**

Try to keep the evening moving. Many have come a long way and lengthy Secuelas may cause them to leave without enjoying the entire Secuela and its benefits. Using a bell or tambourine or musicians can help keep everything on time.

After the Fourth Day talk, divide the people for floating reunion groups by:

Get an approximate count of the attendance at the beginning of the Secuela and divide by the number of people you would like in each group (between 5 and 8 people).

At the proper time, have the people count off by this number. Husbands and wives, close friends, etc. should be encouraged to attend separate groups. Remind guests that they may go with their host, if they wish.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Questions may be asked to direct sharing, such as:

What was your closest moment to Christ.

Your successes and failures in piety, study and action.

Questions prepared by the Fourth Day speaker relating to the talk.

THOUGHTS TO REMEMBER AS YOU PREPARE

The Secuela is an opportunity for pescadores to share their Tres Dias experiences and fourth day walks. It is not a forum for discussion of non-Tres Dias issues, opportunities or events. Please refrain from including or endorsing such items.

Remember that the Lord is in charge, and He will use you and this Secuela in a mighty way if you call upon Him; then step back and let Him work.

Secuelas are not meant as a substitute for nor supplement to worship, communion and sharing in one's local congregation. Great care must be taken to focus the worship life of the pescadore in his or her own church family.

CCTD Post-Weekend Committee
Email: postweekend@cctdonline.org
Revised August 17, 2009

SECUELA FORMAT (Items in Bold letters are essential)

7:00 Arrival and informal fellowship(refreshments are optional)

7:15 Music and singing

7:30 Welcoming remarks by the leader **(Moderator introduces people doing prayer and Scripture by name and church as to eliminate applause).**

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Introduction of New Pescadores or Cursillistas (name, church, town, weekend)

Introduction of guests by hosts (name, church, town)

Announcements and communications (Short reminder of upcoming ecumenical events)

Reports:

Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer's report & collection
Pre-weekend Committee
Weekend Committee
Post-weekend Committee
Rectors of upcoming weekends
President's report

Optional: Clergy Talk - sharing thoughts on Christian life and doctrine (10 minutes)

8:15 **Fourth Day Talk** - 10-15 minutes long with emphasis on the pescadore's Fourth Day since their weekend

Instructions for the Floating Reunion Groups should be given by the leader, not the Fourth Day speaker.

8:30 **Floating Reunion Groups**

9:00 Liturgy/Communion/Agape - communion is to be offered only under the leadership of ordained clergy and is optional. A prayer circle can also be an option.

Closing Prayer

Passing the peace

9:30 Departure and cleanup

SECUELA GUIDELINES

GIVING A FOURTH DAY TALK

Background

The Fourth Day talk is focal point of the Secuela. The person giving the talk should live the truth of their witness and share how the experiences on their weekend have affected their life. The talk is given with sincerity and humility so others may be encouraged and uplifted. The importance lies within the testimony not the delivery .

Essentials of a Fourth Day Talk

Basic Elements

- A truth, that comes through the outline of the talk
- A life, that of the person giving the talk
- A living experience, that gives witness to how the weekend effected your life

Sequence

- Christ, your personal experience of Him on your weekend and since
- Scripture, how your life is tied to the Gospel
- Living experience, how you have grown in your relationship with and love of Christ
- Present moment, living the Fourth Day and the changes it has brought on your life, the life of your family, and others

What a Fourth Day Talk Should Be

- Simple, short(10-15 minutes) and enthusiastic
- Personal witness
- Relevant to everyday life

What a Fourth Day Talk Should Not Be

- An outpouring of personal troubles or opinions
- Purely emotional
- Focused on an extraordinary event
- Intellectual or instructional