



Spring 2024



PG 2-3

**MEET THEM WHERE
THEY'RE AT & GO
WHERE GOD INSPIRES**
Why genuine relationships are
essential in evangelization.

PG 4

STORIES FROM THE ROAD
"It gave me the confidence to go to confession for
the first time in over four years..." (Read more!)



MEET THEM WHERE THEY'RE AT & *go where God inspires.*

When it comes down to it, so much of NET's approach to evangelization can be boiled down to this phrase: **Meet them where they're at and go where God inspires.**

We first teach NET missionaries that we meet every youth where they're at, not where we or anyone else would like them to be. This is the starting point. While we realize that the vast majority of teenagers in Canada have no relationship with Jesus, it is even more disheartening to realize they are increasingly likely to be strangers to the very concept of who He is. In recognizing this it becomes more and more important to meet youth in the reality of where they're at.

And sometimes the reality of where they're at is messy. It's not what we'd like it to be. But it's our duty as evangelists to not only meet them there, but to love them there as Christ would. And we can't only love people for the hope of who they might become. We have to love them for who they are, in their messy reality.

This makes the second point even more important. When we meet them where they're at, we then need to give an ear to the Holy Spirit and be willing to go where God inspires.

It's crucial to not have an agenda for these relationships, because loving someone with a plan of how to change them isn't meeting them where they're at, it's meeting them where you want them to be. But God does have a plan for them, and it's important to look for ways He wants our missionaries to help these youth draw closer to Himself. The key difference is that we go where **God** inspires. Not where **we** desire them to go. Everything is done in God's plan, not ours.





We tell our missionaries that Jesus desires the salvation of these young people more than they ever could, and it's the truth. We take action based on the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, not a personal agenda, and in doing so we make sure we never impose or push anyone onto anything. We propose a step onward and share our own stories to illustrate what the path can look like, but ultimately each step toward a relationship with Jesus has to be a personal one. We walk beside them, encourage them, and invite them deeper, but it all happens at whatever pace God desires. After all, **He wants them more than we ever could.**

I had the pleasure of accompanying him in a small group and from the beginning, he was very honest about his disbelief in God. He expressed that he didn't have a desire to start any kind of relationship with Him. When we reached our prayer time in the retreat, I found myself praying that the Lord would soften his heart to be able to receive him and his love. The moment I placed my hand on his shoulder to pray with him, I glanced up to see his eyes fixed on the crucifix and tears streaming down his face. When we met again for our final small group, I asked what he thought of the prayer time and he said he had no words to express what he had just experienced.

- **Mariah, Current Missionary**



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in God's plan,
not ours.**

Stories from the Road

I remember one of the boys who was in my discussion group during a retreat we ran started off the day by sharing that he knew about God, but didn't really know God personally. His faith was something he did with his family but not by himself. However, at the end of the day, after we had had a time of prayer, he told the group about his experience during prayer. He said that God had always been a part of his life, but that that prayer time had been the first time he had ever truly focused on God. He also shared that it had been the first time he had picked up a rosary in over a year and that, although God wasn't the top priority of his life, he wanted to work towards getting him there.

- Thomas, Current Missionary



"The children enjoyed their time with NET and some were strongly impacted, especially during prayer in the chapel and afterwards. NET has been and continues to be an amazing experience for students and staff. I had mentioned to people that NET helped in my conversion to Catholicism several years ago. The team has done a wonderful job at uplifting, simplifying things, and making strong and realistic connections with everyone. If this experience was more readily available to people and the community, I personally feel that society would participate and love and light would be spread to others. Thank you again for a wonderful experience."

- Teacher, 2024

"I liked being (at the retreat) because it gave me the confidence to go to confession for the first time in over 4 years."

- Youth at NET event (2024)



"During our silent prayer time, I really got in my feels. I have never experienced silence like that. It was almost so quiet it was intense but in a good way. I really reflected and to be honest I almost cried but it felt good, like a hug."

- Youth at NET event (2024)

"My biggest faith based takeaway was the prayer time. I felt close to God and lost in prayer in a way I have never felt before."

- Youth at NET event (2024)



1.

Learn More!

Visit netcanada.ca or scan the QR code below to find more information about retreat ministry, and download our welcome packet.



2.

Book a Retreat

Schedule a NET retreat for your school, parish or diocese.



3.

Host the Team

Receive the team in your community and begin seeing youth's lives transformed!

BOOK A NET RETREAT FOR YOUR YOUTH IN 2024-2025

There are still availabilities for the 2024-2025 mission year.

Book your NET retreat today!



EVERY NET RETREAT INCLUDES:

- Small group discussions, games and activities, and live testimony presentations.
- Guided prayer time and a personal invitation to commit to Christ.
- The message of God's unending love for your youth.

Celebrate with us!

Get your tickets to the end of the year Thanksgiving Banquet on June 1!

Visit our website or call us to buy your tickets!

www.netcanada.ca

613-841-4141

Or join us virtually via livestream on the NET Canada Facebook page.



One of NET Canada's most consistent and significant expenses is vehicles!

Canada is huge! And every year our teams drive back and forth across this big, beautiful country, putting thousands of kilometers onto the vehicles they use.

As we continue to regrow the number of teams we have on the road following the pandemic, we also face the financial challenge of regrowing our vehicle fleet. If you're able to, please consider giving towards NET Canada's vehicle fund. Don't let vehicle costs keep us from reaching youth with Jesus, wherever in the country they are!

Scan the QR code below to contribute towards NET's vehicle fund, or write the word vehicles on the donation form below and mail it to us.



I WANT TO SEE YOUTH TRANSFORMED & RE-ENGAGED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH!

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\$25 \$75 \$100 \$200

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