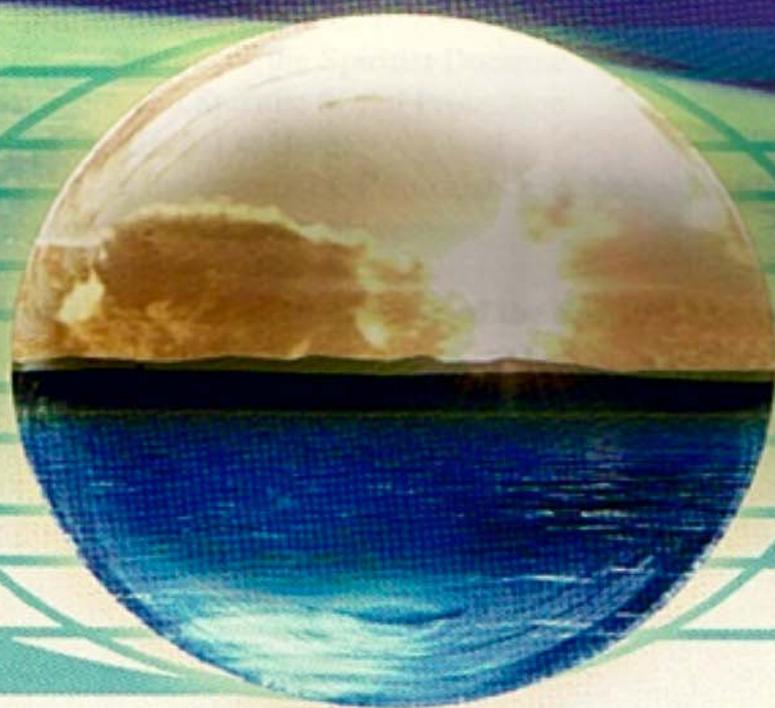


GUIDELINES

TO THE GROUPS, CENTERS AND SPIRITIST SOCIETIES



SUPPORT GUIDELINES FOR SPIRITIST ACTIVITIES

“LET US WORK TOGETHER UNITING OUR EFFORTS,
SO THAT WHEN THE LORD,
ARRIVES HE WILL FIND HIS WORK FINISHED...”



SPIRITIST COUNCIL



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

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Translated by: Jussara Korngold, Marie Levinson and Anabel Perez



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



Introduction

As mentioned in its Constitution, “the essential purposes and objectives of the International Spiritist Council are: to promote the fraternal union and solidarity of Spiritist Institutions of all countries and the unification of the Spiritist Movement on a worldwide basis; to promote the study and dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine throughout the world in its three principle aspects: scientific, philosophic and religious; to promote the practice of charity on a spiritual, moral and material basis, in accordance with the Spiritist Doctrine.” (art. 4.º) Also, the same article observes: “The purposes and objectives of CEI are founded upon the Spiritist Doctrine codified by Allan Kardec and in the works which, by following its guidelines, become complementary and subsidiary to the Codification.”

Trying to adhere to those objectives and after having concentrated study on the part of its members, the International Spiritist Council approved, in October of 1998, the Campaign of Dissemination of Spiritism, with the goal of making the Spiritist Doctrine more widely known, better understood and better practiced.

To this end, it approved the texts “Get to Know Spiritism”, designated to the public in general, and “Disseminate Spiritism”, designated to the directors and spiritist workers. The latter, offers guidelines for the development and the improvement of the noble task of promoting and accomplishing the study, the dissemination and the practice of the Spiritist Doctrine.

Pursuing the resolve of being useful to the work program developed by the directors and the spiritist workers, the International Spiritist Council assembled, in this pamphlet, the above-mentioned texts, transcriptions of Allan Kardec's basic works and other complementary material. In addition, it offers work suggestions to incorporate the guidelines that consist of the referred to documents, especially those relating to the activities of the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies, as well as for the Entities and the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement.

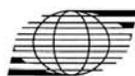
Taking the texts that are in this pamphlet as a basis and always maintaining as parameter the doctrinaire principles expressed in Allan Kardec's works, the Entities, the Federations and of the Unification of the Spiritist Movement can elaborate and gather several programs of study and work and to make them available to the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies. Also, it can be used as assistance in the accomplishment of meetings and seminars designated for the preparation of workers of the various areas of activities herein described.

In the creation and preparation of those study and work programs, they should always be rooted in the established principles of the Spiritist Doctrine as expressed in Kardec's Codification works. It is opportune to observe the multiplicity of cultural and social characteristics of the ones that frequent the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies, requiring in lieu of this, that those Institutions utilize compatible materials with its goal.

It is also important to observe the comments referring to this subject presented in the article 6.th of ISC's By-laws: “The use of all or any courses, programs or back-up materials offered by the ISC is not obligatory, the criterion for their adoption, either partially or totally, rests with each National Federation or Organization, who may then adapt them to their individual needs and conveniences.”

Finally, it is important to point out, that this compilation of texts, were created with the purpose in mind of collaborating with the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies, as well as with the Entities and the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement in pursuing their tasks. This material is neither conclusive nor definitive. It should be enriched and perfected with added suggestions and contributions, including those observed in the utilization of this material.

Executive Commission of ISC - Oct/1999





INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

I

THE SPIRITIST
DOCTRINE

OR

SPIRITISM



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



IDENTITY OF THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

“Spiritist Doctrine” or “Spiritism”:

Name given by Allan Kardec to the Doctrine of the Spirits contained in the works of the Codification.

- *“For new ideas new words are needed in order to secure clearness of language by avoiding the confusion inseparable from the employment of the same term for expressing different meanings. The words spiritual, spiritualist, spiritualism, have a definite acceptance; to give them a new one, would be to multiply the causes of amphibology, already so numerous.”*
- *“Instead, therefore, of the words spiritual, spiritualism, we employ, to designate this latter belief, the words spiritist and spiritism to better designate the latter belief . . .”*
- *“We say, then, that the fundamental principles of the spiritist theory or Spiritism, is the relationship of the material world with Spirits, or the beings of the invisible world; and we designate the adherents of the spiritist theory as spiritists.”*
- *“In a special sense, “The Spirits’ Book” contains the doctrine or theory of spiritism; in a general sense, it appertains to the spiritualist school . . .”*

*Allan Kardec
 (“The Spirits’ Book” - Introduction – I)*



ORIGIN, AUTHORSHIP, AND OBJECTIVE OF THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

Observations of Allan Kardec and of the Superior Spirits:

- *“Spirits assure us that the time appointed by Providence for a universal manifestation of their existence has now come; and that their mission, as the ministers of God and the instruments of His will, is to inaugurate, through the instructions they are charged to convey to us, a new era of regeneration for the human race.*
- *This book is a compilation of their teachings. It has been written by the order and under the dictation of spirits of high degree, for the purpose of establishing the bases of a rational philosophy, free from the influence of prejudices and of preconceived opinions. It contains nothing that is not the expression of their thought; nothing that has not been submitted to their approbation. The method adopted in the arrangements of its contents, the comments upon these, and the form given to certain portions of the work, are all that has been contributed by him to whom the duty of publishing it has been entrusted.”*
Allan Kardec
(*“The Spirits’ Book” – Prolegomena*)
-
- *“Be zealous and persevering in the work you have undertaken in conjunction with us, for this work is ours. In the book you are to write, we shall lay the foundations of the new edifice which is destined to unite all men in a common sentiment of love and charity.”*
The Superior Spirits
(*“The Spirits’ Book” – Prolegomena*)
-
- *“Just as Christ said: “I am not come to destroy the Law, but to fulfill it,” so Spiritism says: “We have not come to destroy the Christian Law, but to carry it out . . . Spiritism has come at the predicted time to fulfill what Christ announced and to prepare for the achievement of future things. It is then, the work of Christ, Who, as He also announced, presides over the regeneration which is now taking place and which will prepare the reign of the Kingdom of God here on Earth.”*
Allan Kardec
(*“The Gospel According to Spiritism” Ch. 1 - Item 7*)
-
- *“In a word, what characterizes the spiritist revelation is that while divine in its origin and of the initiative of the Spirits, its elaboration is fruit of man's work.”*
Allan Kardec
(*“Genesis” Ch. 1 - Item13*)



SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

- **What it is**
- **What it reveals**
- **What it comprises**
- **Its fundamental teachings**
- **The Spiritist practice**

“Get to Know Spiritism”

(Approved by the International Spiritist Council in its Ordinary Meeting of October 1998)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

Get To Know

SPIRITISM, A NEW ERA FOR HUMANITY

GOD,
THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE,
FIRST CAUSE OF ALL THINGS

JESUS,
OUR GUIDE AND MODEL

KARDEC,
THE FUNDAMENTAL BASE



- *THE SPIRITS' BOOK*
- *THE MEDIUMS' BOOK*
- *THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SPIRITISM*
- *HEAVEN AND HELL*
- *THE GENESIS*

"WITHOUT CHARITY THERE IS NO SALVATION"



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE OR SPIRITISM

What it is

- It is the set of laws and principles, as revealed by the Superior Spirits, contained in the works of Allan Kardec, which constitute the Spiritist Codification: *The Spirits' Book*, *The Mediums' Book*, *The Gospel According to Spiritism*, *Heaven and Hell*, and *Genesis*.
- "Spiritism is a science which deals with the nature, origin and destiny of Spirits, as well as their relationship with the corporeal world." *Allan Kardec*
(*Qu'est-ce que le Spiritisme?* - Préambule)
- "Spiritism realizes what Jesus said of the promised Consoler, by bringing knowledge of those things which allow Man to know where he came from, where he is going and why he is on Earth; so attracting mankind towards the true principles of God's law and offering consolation through faith and hope." *Allan Kardec*
(*The Gospel According to Spiritism* - Ch. 6 - Item 4)

What it reveals

- It reveals new and more profound concepts with respect to God, the Universe, Human Beings, the Spirits, and the Laws which govern life itself.
- Furthermore, it reveals what we are; where we came from; where we are going; what is the objective of our existence; and what is the reason for pain and suffering.

What it comprises

- By bringing new concepts about Human Beings and everything that surrounds them, Spiritism touches on all areas of knowledge, human activities and behavior, thus opening a new era for the regeneration of Humanity.
- Spiritism can and should be studied, analyzed, and practiced in all the fundamental aspects of life, such as: scientific, philosophical, religious, ethical, moral, educational, and social.

Its fundamental teachings

- God is the Supreme Intelligence, first cause of all things. God is eternal, immutable, immaterial, unique, omnipotent, supremely just and good.
- The Universe is God's creation. It encompasses all rational and non-rational beings, both animate and inanimate, material and immaterial.
- In addition to the corporeal world inhabited by incarnate Spirits, which are Human Beings, there exists the spiritual world, inhabited by discarnate Spirits.
- Within the Universe there are other inhabited worlds, with beings at different degrees of evolution: some equal, others more or less evolved than Human Beings.



- All the Laws of Nature are Divine Laws because God is their author. They cover both the physical and moral laws.
- A Human Being is a Spirit incarnated in a material body. The perispirit is the semi-material body which unites the Spirit to the physical body.
- The Spirits are the intelligent beings of creation. They constitute the world of the Spirits, which pre-exists and outlives everything.
- Spirits are created simple and ignorant. They evolve intellectually and morally, passing from a lower order to a higher one, until they attain perfection, where they will enjoy unalterable bliss.
- Spirits preserve their individuality before, during, and after each incarnation.
- Spirits reincarnate as many times as is necessary for their spiritual advancement.
- Spirits are always progressing. In their multiple physical existences, they may sometimes become stationary but they never regress. The speed of their intellectual and moral progress depends on the efforts they make to attain perfection.
- Spirits belong to different orders according to the degree of perfection they have attained: Pure Spirits, who have attained maximum perfection; Good Spirits, whose predominant desire is towards goodness; and Imperfect Spirits, characterized by their ignorance, their tendency towards evil, and by their lower passions.
- The Spirits' relations with Human Beings are constant and have always existed. The Good Spirits attract us towards goodness, sustain us in life's trials, and help us bear them with courage and resignation. The Imperfect Spirits induce us towards error.
- Jesus is the Guide and Model for all Humankind. The Doctrine He taught and exemplified is the most pure expression of God's Law.
- The morality of Christ, as contained in the Gospels, is the pathway for the secure progress of all Human Beings. Its practice is the solution for all human problems and the objective to be attained by Humankind.
- Human Beings are given the free will to act, but they must answer for the consequences of their actions.
- Future life reserves for Human Beings penalties and pleasures according to the respect they do or do not show for God's laws.
- Prayer is an act of adoration for God. It is found in the natural law and is the result of an innate sentiment in every Human Being, just as the idea of the existence of the Creator is innate.
- Prayer makes Human Beings better. Whoever prays with fervor and confidence grows stronger against evil temptations, and God sends the Good Spirits to assist them. This type of assistance will never be denied when requested with sincerity.

— • —



THE SPIRITIST PRACTICE

- All Spiritist practices are gratuitous, following the orientation of the moral principle found in the Gospel: "Give for free what you receive for free."
- Spiritism is practiced with simplicity, without any external forms of worship, within the Christian principle that God should be worshipped in spirit and in truth.
- Spiritism has no clergy, nor does it adopt or use at any of its meetings or during its practices the following: altars, images, candles, processions, sacraments, concession of indulgences, paraments, alcoholic or hallucinogenic beverages, incense, tobacco, talismans, amulets, horoscopes, card reading, pyramids, crystals, or any other objects, rituals or external forms of worship.
- Spiritism does not impose its principles. It invites those interested in knowing it to submit its teachings to the test of reason before accepting them.
- Mediumship, which allows the Spirits to communicate with Human Beings, is a faculty which many individuals bring with them at birth, independent of whatever religion or beliefs they may come to adopt.
- Spiritist mediumship practice is solely that which is exercised based on the principles of the Spiritist Doctrine and within the Christian morality.
- Spiritism respects all religions and doctrines; values all efforts towards the practice of goodness; works towards peace and fellowship between all nations and all peoples, regardless of race, color, nationality, creed, cultural or social standing. It also recognizes that the truly good person is one who complies with the laws of justice, love, and charity in their highest degree of purity.

— • —

***"To be born, to die, to be reborn yet again, and
constantly progress, that is the Law."***

— • —

***"Unshakable faith is only that which can meet reason
face to face in every Human epoch."***

— • —

***The study of the works of Allan Kardec is fundamental
for the correct knowledge of the Spiritist Doctrine***

— • —

CAMPAIGN FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF SPIRITISM

United States Spiritist Council - P.O. Box 14026 - Washington, D.C. 20044-4026 U.S.A.



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



II

THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

(DISSEMINATE SPIRITISM)

*(Approved by the International Spiritist Council in its
Ordinary Meeting of October 1998)*



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



Disseminate

SPIRITISM,
A NEW ERA
FOR HUMANITY

GOD,
 THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE,
 FIRST CAUSE OF ALL THINGS

JESUS,
 OUR GUIDE AND MODEL

KARDEC,
 THE FUNDAMENTAL BASE



- **THE SPIRITS' BOOK**
- **THE MEDIUMS' BOOK**
- **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SPIRITISM**
- **HEAVEN AND HELL**
- **THE GENESIS**

"WITHOUT CHARITY THERE IS NO SALVATION"

THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

"Spirits assure us that the time appointed by Providence for a universal manifestation of their existence has now come; and that their mission, as the ministers of God and the instruments of His will, is to inaugurate, through the instructions they are charged to convey to us, a new era of regeneration for the human race."

Allan Kardec
(The Spirits' Book – Prolegomena)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

What It Is

- The Spiritist Movement is the cluster of activities whose objective is the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine, as contained in the basic works of Allan Kardec, placing it within the reach and at the service of all Humanity.
- The activities which compose the Spiritist Movement are carried out by individuals, jointly or on their own, and by Spiritist Institutions.
- The Spiritist Institutions consist of:
 - Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies, which develop general activities related to the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine. They may be small, medium, or large in size;
 - Federations, which develop activities aimed at the union of the Spiritist Institutions and the unification of the Spiritist Movement;
 - Specialized Entities, which develop specific Spiritist activities, such as those devoted to social assistance and doctrinal dissemination; and
 - Study Groups of Spiritism, basically concentrating on the initial study of the Spiritist Doctrine.

The Influence of Spiritism on Progress

798. Will Spiritism become the general belief, or will its acceptance remain confined to the few?

“It will certainly become the general belief, and will mark a new era in the history of the human race, because it belongs to the natural order of things, and because the time has come for it to be ranked among the branches of human knowledge. It will nevertheless have to withstand a good many violent attacks — attacks that will be prompted rather by interest than by conviction, for you must not lose sight of the fact that there are persons whose interest is to combat this belief, some from self-conceit, others from worldly considerations; but its opponents, finding themselves in a decreasing minority, will at length be obliged to rally to the general opinion, on pain of rendering themselves ridiculous.”

(The Spirits' Book – Ch. XXIII - Part 3)



SPIRITIST GROUPS, CENTERS, OR SOCIETIES

“These Groups, corresponding together, visiting each other, and transmitting to one another the results arrived at by each, may, even now, form the nucleus of the great spiritist family which will one day rally to itself all opinions, and unite all men in the common brotherhood of Christian charity.”

Allan Kardec
(*The Mediums' Book* – Ch. XXIX – Item 334)

What They Are

The Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:

- Nucleuses of study, fraternity, prayer, and activities practiced within the Spiritist principles;
- Schools of spiritual and moral education, operating according to the Spiritist Doctrine;
- Posts of fraternal assistance open to everyone in search for guidance, enlightenment, help, or consolation;
- Workshops which provide participants opportunities to exercise their inner growth through the practice of the Gospel in their activities;
- Places where the children, the youth, the adults, and the elderly have the opportunity to socialize, study, and perform activities together to unite the family under the guidance of Spiritism;
- Retreats of peace that offer participants opportunities for spiritual renewal and fraternal union through the practice of the maxim “Love one another”;
- Nucleuses characterized by the simplicity typical of the first congregations of the nascent Christianity; by the practice of charity; and by the total absence of images, symbols, rituals, or other exterior manifestations; and
- Institutions that represent the fundamental units of the Spiritist Movement.

Their Objectives

The objectives of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:

- To promote the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine, while tending to individuals who:
 - seek enlightenment, guidance, and help for their spiritual, moral, and material problems;
 - wish to get acquainted with and study the Spiritist Doctrine;
 - wish to work, collaborate, and serve in any field of action the Spiritist practice has to offer.



Its Basic Activities

The basic activities of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:

- To conduct *meetings for the study of the Spiritist Doctrine*, in a programmed, methodical, and systematic form, open to individuals of all ages and every cultural and social standing, and aimed at enabling a deep and wide-ranging knowledge of Spiritism in all of its aspects.
- To conduct *meetings for the explanation of the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine, the practice of passes (laying on of hands), and to extend fraternal assistance through dialogue* to those who approach the Spiritist Centers in search of enlightenment, guidance, help, and spiritual and moral assistance.
- To conduct *meetings for the study, education, and practice of mediumship* based on Spiritist principles and objectives, thereby enlightening, guiding, and preparing individuals for mediumship activities.
- To conduct *meetings for the Spiritist evangelization of children and the youth*, in a programmed, methodical, and systematic form, thereby assisting, enlightening, and guiding them within the teachings of the Spiritist Doctrine.
- To carry out the *work of dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine* through all modes of social communication compatible with the Spiritist principles, such as lectures, conferences, books, newspapers, magazines, bulletins, pamphlets, hand-outs, radio, TV, posters, audio and video tapes.
- To carry out *Spiritist assistance activities* for the needy by helping them with their most pressing needs, and by enlightening them with the moral teachings of the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine.
- To encourage and offer guidelines to individuals who attend their meetings toward implanting and maintaining the *“Gospel at Home” practice*, as sustenance for the spiritual harmonization of their families.
- To participate in *activities aimed at the union of Spiritists and Spiritist Institutions as well as the unification of the Spiritist Movement* by joining their efforts together; summing up their experiences; providing mutual help and support; improving Spiritist activities in general; and strengthening the actions of the Spiritists.
- To perform the *administrative tasks* necessary to their regular operation in accordance with their organizational structure and in compliance with all applicable local legislation.



**WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND OF UNIFICATION OF
THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT**

“Spiritism is a question of depth; to be bound by form would be a folly unworthy of the magnitude of the subject. Therefore, Centers which believe they fully understand true Spiritism should extend a helping hand to others, in fraternity, and so unite in order to combat the common enemies: incredulity and fanaticism.”

Allan Kardec

(Posthumous Works - The Constitution of Spiritism - Item VI)

What It Is

- The work of the Federations and of unification of the Spiritist Movement serves to strengthen, facilitate, expand, and improve the efforts of the Spiritist Movement in its ultimate goal of promoting the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine.
- It derives from the fraternal, voluntary, conscientious, and operational union of Spiritists and Spiritist Institutions through the exchange of information and experiences, mutual help, and joint activities.
- It is fundamental to the strengthening, improvement, and growth of Spiritist Institutions, and for the correction of eventual deviations from proper doctrinal and administrative practices.

What It Does

- It promotes a continuous contact with the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies, thereby promoting their union and integration while placing at their disposal suggestions, expertise, and supporting programs and materials needed for their activities.
- It conducts meetings, courses, fellowship gatherings, and other events directed at administrators and workers of Spiritist organizations to refresh and update doctrinal knowledge and administrative procedures aimed at improving and expanding the Spiritist Institutions' activities, and to open up new areas of action and work.
- It organizes events directed at the general public for the dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine, thus enabling Spiritism to be better known and better practiced.

How It Is Structured

- It is structured through the union of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies which, while preserving their autonomy and freedom of action, join forces and sum up experiences aimed at the continuous improvement and strengthening of their activities and the Spiritist Movement in general.

By joining together, the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies constitute the Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at local, regional, state, or national level.

- The Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the national level constitute in turn the Entity of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the international level: the International Spiritist Council.



GUIDELINES FOR THE WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND OF UNIFICATION OF THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

- The work of the Federations and of unification of the Spiritist Movement, as well as that of the union of the Spiritists and the Spiritist Institutions, is based upon the principles of fraternity, solidarity, freedom, and responsibility as prescribed by the Spiritist Doctrine.
- It is characterized by offering assistance without demanding compensation; by helping without creating conditions; by instructing without imposing results; and by uniting without inhibiting initiatives, thereby preserving the values and distinctive characteristics of both individuals and institutions.
- The integration and participation of Spiritist Institutions in this work, which shall always be voluntary and conscientious, are carried out on the basis of equality without subordination, thus respecting and preserving the institutions' independence, autonomy, and freedom of action.
- The programs and supporting materials made available to the Spiritist Institutions are not obligatory. It is left to their own discretion to adopt them or not, partially or in their entirety, or to adapt them to their own needs and conveniences.
- In all activities the methodical, deep, and constant study of the works of Allan Kardec, which constitute the Spiritist Codification, should be always encouraged while underscoring the basis on which the Doctrine is established.
- All work and activities have as their highest objective the placing with simplicity and clarity of the Spiritist Doctrine's consoling and guiding message within the reach and at the service of everyone through study, prayer, and other joint activities.
- Work of federations as well as activities of unification of the Spiritist Movement must always preserve the participants' inherent right to think, create, and act, as professed and praised by the Spiritist Doctrine, with the understanding, however, that each and every activity must be in accord with the works of the Codification by Allan Kardec.

The Mission of Spiritists

“Go forth then and take the Divine Word: to the great who will be despising; to the learned who will demand proof; to the humble and simple ones who will accept; because it is principally among the martyrs to work, this terrestrial probation, that you will encounter fervour and faith.

Fortify your phalanx with decision and courage! Hands to work! The plough is ready!
The land awaits; plough!

Go forth and thank God for the glorious task which He has entrusted to you; but pay attention! Amongst those called to Spiritism many will go astray; so then, mark well your pathway and follow the truth.

Erastus

(The Gospel According to Spiritism - Ch. XX - Item 4)



OBSERVATIONS

1. The Regulations of the International Spiritist Council state that:
 - The International Spiritist Council (ISC) is an organization resulting from the union, on a worldwide level, of the organizations representing national Spiritist Movements.
 - The main purposes and objectives of the ISC are:
 - I. To promote the fraternal union of the Spiritist Institutions of all countries and the Unification of the International Spiritist Movement.
 - II. To promote the study and dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine in its three basic aspects: scientific, philosophical, and religious.
 - III. To promote the practice of spiritual, moral, and material charity according to the Spiritist Doctrine.
 - The purposes and objectives of the ISC are founded upon the Spiritist Doctrine codified by Allan Kardec, and on the works which, by following its guidelines, become complementary and subsidiary to the Codification.
 - The programs and supporting materials offered by the ISC shall not be obligatory. It shall be left to the discretion of the Spiritist organizations of each country the decision to adopt them or not, partially or in their entirety, or to adapt them to their own needs or conveniences.
 - The organizations affiliated to the ISC shall maintain their autonomy, independence, and freedom of action. Their affiliation with the ISC shall be based upon, and have as its objective, solidarity and fraternal union.
- *
2. The activities related in this document are proposed as suggestions. The Spiritist Institutions, at their discretion, may adopt them as their growth and development create the appropriate conditions, and at such a time as their administrators consider suitable.
 3. Spiritist activities shall always be carried out in a manner compatible with the social environment characteristics and in full compliance with local legislation.

The Workers of the Lord

- “The time approaches when those things which have been announced for the transformation of humanity will be accomplished. All those who have worked in the field of the Lord with disinterestedness and no other motive than charity, will be blessed! Their working days will be paid a hundred times more than was expected.”
- “Blessed are those who have said to their fellow men: ‘Let us work together and unite our efforts so that when the Lord arrives He will find His work finished,’ seeing that the Lord will say to them: ‘Come unto me, you who have been good servants, you who knew how to silence your rivalries and discords so that no harm should come to the work’.”

The Spirit of Truth
(*The Gospel According to Spiritism* - Ch. XX - Item 5)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

Spiritism

“Just as Christ said: ‘I am not come to destroy the Law but to fulfill it,’ so Spiritism says: We have not come to destroy the Christian Law but to carry it out. It teaches nothing contrary to what was taught by Christ. Rather it develops it, explains it in a manner that can be understood by all and completes that which had previously been known only in its allegoric form. Spiritism has come at the predicted time to fulfill what Christ announced and to prepare for the achievement of future things. It is then, the work of Christ Who, as He also announced, presides over the regeneration which is now taking place and which will prepare the reign of the Kingdom of God here on Earth.”

Allan Kardec

(The Gospel According to Spiritism - Ch. I - Item 7)

In the Work of Unification

- The work for the unification in our ranks is urgent, but not rushed. One assertion seems to contradict the other. But it is not so. It is urgent because it defines the goal that we should aim at; but not rushed because it is not granted to us to violate anyone’s conscience.
- Let us preserve the purpose of uniting, approaching, and understanding one another; and, if possible, let us establish at every site where the name of Spiritism has been brought to light, a study group, however small, of the works of Kardec, in the light of the Christ of God.
- The Spiritist Doctrine holds its essential aspects in triple configuration. Thus, no one should be restricted in their desire to work and produce. Let those inclined toward the sciences to cultivate them in their dignity; those who devote themselves to philosophy to ennoble its postulates; and those who consecrate themselves to religion to turn divine its aspirations. Yet, above all, it is necessary that the basis of the Spiritist Doctrine remain in everyone and everything so that we don’t lose the balance at the base over which the organization is raised.
- To teach, but also to put into practice; to believe, but also to study; to counsel, but also to exemplify; to unite, but also to nourish.
- It is indispensable that Spiritism be maintained exactly as it was conveyed to Allan Kardec by the Divine Messengers, that is, without political compromises, without religious professionalism, without degrading ego, and without burning desires of conquest of fleeting earthly powers.
- Let us follow Allan Kardec in our studies, aspirations, activities, and deeds so that our faith does not turn into hypnosis, whereby the power of darkness establishes its influence over the weaker minds, enchainning them to centuries of illusion and suffering.
- Let Allan Kardec’s work not only be believed or felt proclaimed or manifested in our convictions, but also be sufficiently lived, suffered, wept over, and put into practice in our own lives. Without this foundation, it is difficult to forge the Christian-Spiritist character which the troubled world awaits from us through unification.
- May the love of Jesus be upon all, and the truth of Kardec be for all.

Bezerra de Menezes

(Excerpts from the message “Unification,” channeled by the medium
Francisco Cândido Xavier - *Reformador*, Dec./1975)

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INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

III

GUIDELINES FOR
THE FORMATION
OF SMALL GROUPS
OF PEOPLE FOR
THE STUDY OF
SPIRITISM

(Text elaborated by the “Allan Kardec Study Group” of Great Britain)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



INTRODUCTION

Spiritism, or the Spiritist Doctrine, is the promised Consoler, which has come at the right time, so as to recall and compliment the Teachings of Jesus by revealing new and more profound concepts with regard to God, the Universe, the Spirits and the Laws which regulate life.

Resting upon the principle of rationalised faith, Spiritism leads Man to understand what he is, where he has come from, where he is going and the purpose of terrestrial life. It clarifies, instructs and consoles, thus bringing Humanity to its real basis, which then paves the way for its spiritualisation.

However, in order to know the Spiritist Doctrine it is necessary to study it. The existence of these small private groupings of people for this purpose are especially justified in those places and countries where the Spiritist Doctrine has not yet managed to reach the desired acceptance or where there are only a few possibilities for dissemination.

This method of study also opens doors for the moral preparation of individuals and groups of people who could become future Workers for the ever widening International Spiritist Movement. At the present moment there are not enough people prepared to fill the necessary requirements for workers, which would permit the setting up of more Spiritist Centres, Groups or Societies, which is a hindrance to the dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine.

This should remind us that, according to Allan Kardec, a Spiritist Centre should never be set up without first having formed a serious gathering of like minded people, and only after they have studied together for some considerable time

Therefore, it is doubly important to organise groupings of people to study the Doctrine. The participants of such groupings should meet on a regular basis, preferable once a week, with the objective of analysing the Spiritist Teachings, always in an atmosphere of fraternity and prayer.



Beyond doubt the Spiritist Doctrine is an important element for bringing enlightenment and consolation to Mankind, who normally face many problems and difficulties in their daily lives. It is therefore appropriate that every effort be made to help the formation, implantation and maintenance of small gatherings of people willing to study the Spiritist Teachings.

GUIDANCE FOR THE FORMATION OF SMALL GROUPS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING SPIRITISM

1 - WHAT IS A GATHERING FOR STUDY?

- It is a group of people, usually friends, people we know, family and relations who gather regularly once a week at the same time, on the same day, in the same ambient in the house, for the purpose of prayer and the study of Spiritism.

2 - HOW TO BEGIN

- In order to begin a study of Spiritism it is necessary to have not less than two people who are able to read and interpret the various questions that are presented. However, the number of people who may attend are only limited by the space available.

3 - WHO MAY BE INVITED?

- It is recommended that the person who wishes to begin a study session should invite only those who show themselves to be receptive to the basic ideas of Spiritism.
- It is not recommended that insistence be put upon anyone who shows disinterest, because they would only hinder the work, which must be firmly based on the Doctrine and the need for harmony amongst the members of the group.
- It is necessary that the group be composed of people who sympathise with each other and are motivated by the same ideals.



4 - WHO SHOULD DIRECT?

- Usually the person who organised the gathering has the ability to direct the studies. However, it is necessary they have at least a rudimentary understanding of the Teachings, so they may be able to attend to the needs of clarification which will eventually occur.

5 - THE DAY, THE TIME AND THE PLACE.

- It is important that the participants, as a group, choose the day and time most adequate to everyone, or at least for the majority, because the day and time must be strictly adhered to.
- Regarding the room for the study, this should be compatible with the number of participants so as not be too crowded, where they may sit comfortably, which will be conducive to the productivity of study.
- As the study progresses and if it is designated that eventually this gathering will become a Spiritist Centre, then the spiritual companions will assist the participants in acquiring a more adequate ambient for public work at a later date.

6 - BOOKS TO BE USED FOR THE STUDY

- During the initial phase it is essential to base the study upon **THE SPIRITS' BOOK** codified by Allan Kardec, which establishes the basic principles of the Spiritist Doctrine. This book teaches us who we are, where we have come from, where we are going and the objectives of this terrestrial life. **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SPIRITISM**, also codified by Allan Kardec, must form part of these studies because it offers guidance on all aspects of behaviour which should be in tune with the Moral Laws which regulate our lives.
- These two books should be studied constantly, meaning that when they come to the end they are once again begun at the commencement. This is a never ending process, due to our lack of



ability to absorb, remember and apply all of the teachings and information contained within them.

7 - ORGANISATION FOR THE STUDY SESSION

7.1 - The meeting may be organised as follows:

- a) Preparation: A short reading taken from a recognised book of messages (e.g. Christian Agenda) = 2 mins.
- b) Initial prayer = 2 mins.
- c) Study of THE SPIRIT'S BOOK = 40 mins.
- d) Study of the Gospel According to Spiritism = 40 mins
- e) Closing prayer. = 3 mins.

7.2. - Preparing the Ambient:

- The reading of an extract from the Gospel According to Spiritism, or another Spiritist book of an evangelical nature, should not exceed 2 minutes and may be done by any person the Director indicates. At this moment there should only be a reading without any comments.

7.3. - Initial Prayer:

- The initial prayer, which can be offered either by the Director or by anyone the Director may nominate, should be concise. It is recommended that God be asked to protect the ambient and for the presence of the Good Spirits, so they may bring peace and inspiration for the studies. A welcome should also be given to the spiritual Friends who may be present at the meeting.

7.4 - Studying The Spirits' Book:

- Various methods may be utilised for the study of The Spirits' Book, as long as they are productive, interesting and permit the participation of all those present. However, it might be suggested that each person in turn reads and comments on one question. In this manner there will be occasion for everyone to take part and raise any questions they may have referring to the topic under study.



- On another occasion one of the participants may undertake to summarise a topic (as designated by the Director) and then present several questions pertinent to that topic, leaving space for commentaries from the other participants. In this case, the participant who assumes this task should do so the previous week in order to have time to study and prepare.
- It is recommended that the study of THE SPIRITS' BOOK begins with the Introduction before starting at question No.1, then continue in sequence till the end. When the end is reached then the study should begin again following the same sequence.
- Whenever possible, it is suggested that one of the Systematic Programs be utilised for studying the Spiritist Doctrine, so as to be sure of a methodological and motivated study program. But make certain that the program comes from a reliable source and that it is based truly on the Codification of Allan Kardec.

7.5 - The study of the Gospel According to Spiritism:

- The same method of study may be used for this book as given for The Spirits' Book. The person designated to present the topic should first read the text and then make their comments. Or perhaps sometimes they may make a brief summary of the topic, and then give opportunity for the other participants to make their comments.

7.6 - The Closing Prayer:

- The person directing the meeting should indicate one of the participants to give the closing prayer.
- This prayer should include special vibrations of love, peace and faith for all who suffer, for the sick, the starving, the homeless, and the orphans. It is essential too, that prayers should be offered in favour of those who seek enlightenment and guidance for their lives; and lastly, for the homes and families of all the participants of this study meeting.



- This prayer should end with an offering of thanks for the assistance of the Good Spirits, for the opportunity of study and for the fraternal moments experienced by the participants during the activity.

7.7 - Punctuality and Discipline:

- Every effort should be made to respect the appointed time for the meeting. Good discipline and punctuality at both the beginning and end of the study will always attract the presence and help of the Good Spirits.

7.8 - The Care of Participants:

- It is important to observe the behaviour of each participant during meetings. Their behaviour should never be bad tempered, sullen or unhappy, nor should it be frivolous or fidgety, but rather serious, confident and serene, so as not to attract the influence of negative Spirits. These are liable to cause upheavals and imbalance amongst the participants.
- It is the responsibility of the Director to look after the participants, offer orientation where necessary and help them resolve any spiritual imbalance they may have.
- It will also be found necessary to offer loving help and general thoughtfulness at all times. A group for study must show itself to be caring, a place of sanctuary, somewhere where participants may take their problems.
- It will be found essential to make the study interesting, helpful and above all, never boring. This will insure happy and attentive members of the study group

8 - AMPLIFYING THE STUDIES

- As the study meetings continue over a period of time, and the studies become more profound it is possible to eventually vary the books utilised e.g. to make a study of THE MEDIUMS BOOK, perhaps, on alternating weeks in place of The Spirits' Book. This will only be



practicable if the members of the meeting remain the same. When there are constant changes, resulting in no real sequence of study for anyone, then this is not advisable.

- Over an extended period of time, always with the same participants, it is also possible to study the other works of Kardec, such as Heaven and Hell, Genesis, etc, not forgetting the books of Leon Denis, Gabriel Delanne and Camille Flammarion.
- Because of their content, didactic characteristics and fidelity to the Codification we also suggest the study of the books received through automatic-writing by Francisco Cândido Xavier, especially those from Emmanuel and Andre Luiz.
- It is very important that the Director of a gathering for study encourage the participants to read the above mentioned books. It is only by extra reading of recommended books, that the participants will be able to acquire a wider knowledge of Spiritism and all it has to teach.

9 - LOOKING AT THE FUTURE

- Constant study, combined with learning to be disciplined, punctual and assiduous, while maintaining an atmosphere of loving fraternity amongst all the participants, will inevitably lead to attracting yet more participants, who will be happy to take part in these instructive and pleasurable meetings.
- With these achievements it is inevitable that the Good Spirits will have been attracted. They will then eventually make known, through intuition or advice from another knowledgeable Spiritist perhaps, their desire to extend this work. When this time comes, it is advisable for the Director and his helpers to begin to form a Committee and prepare Membership, as the two preliminary steps towards setting-up a Spiritist Centre.
- Now will be the time for the Director and the helpers to seek information as to the requirements for organising a Spiritist Centre. It is important to remember that in most countries there are legal



requirements before this can be done. There is as well the special organisation which is appropriate to a well run Spiritist Centre, which has the intention of following the Codification of Allan Kardec.

- Most importantly it should be remembered that no one should be in a hurry to begin a Spiritist Centre. It should happen gradually, with the full agreement of members. The initial harmony and fellowship of the original study meeting must never be lost. If this should happen, then it must be recognised that there has been precipitation and that the work of study should return to its original form and wait for a more propitious moment to go public.
- It is also essential that every care must be taken to always follow the guidelines of the Spiritist Doctrine as established in Kardec's Codification and not to deviate from them, which would only disfigure the work.

10 - ADMINISTRATION

- There must always be a person who has the responsibility for this study meeting, however informal it may be.
- Nevertheless, as the work consolidates and participants begin to see the possibility of eventually forming a Spiritist Centre, the Director should be on the alert for future collaborators. Amongst those who are studying it will be possible to find various people willing to help, who possibly also have some useful skills.
- Future workers can be prepared at an early stage to fulfil various tasks which will be necessary for the maintenance of a well run organisation, such as secretarial work, keeping the treasury, giving talks, becoming healers, etc. Other tasks of great importance include the translation of messages and texts, which later on may develop into the translation of actual books into their native language. A 'Newsletter' can be started, to be distributed amongst friends and later mailed to a wider area. It is also possible for this grouping of friends to form a small Lending Library.



- It will frequently be found that some participants, although willing to help, lack the necessary skills. Therefore there arises an excellent opportunity to help people learn new skills, which will also aid them in their daily lives. Let us not forget that the Spiritist Doctrine is one that offers complete 'education' for Mankind. It teaches us where we are going and also shows us how to get there, through the loving and charitable acts practiced one to the other. This is where real fellowship begins to grow.
- Finally, let us understand clearly that only this 'Base Work' can eventually produce an ideal ambient for the formation of a Spiritist Centre. The only 'foundation' that will bring success for a future Centre is a SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION, which comes from study and that application in practical terms of what is learnt. The physical foundation will only materialise what already exists in spiritual terms. Therefore, if this spiritual base is absent then there is nothing to materialise!





IV

GROUPS, CENTERS
OR
SPIRITIST SOCIETIES





INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

SPIRITIST GROUPS, CENTERS, OR SOCIETIES

“These Groups, corresponding together, visiting each other, and transmitting to one another the results arrived at by each, may, even now, form the nucleus of the great spiritist family which will one day rally to itself all opinions, and unite all men in the common brotherhood of Christian charity.”

(The Mediums’ Book, by Allan Kardec– Ch. XXIX – Item 334)

What They Are

The Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:

- Nucleuses of study, fraternity, prayer, and activities practiced within the Spiritist principles;
- Schools of spiritual and moral education, operating according to the Spiritist Doctrine;
- Posts of fraternal assistance open to everyone in search for guidance, enlightenment, help, or consolation;
- Workshops which provide participants opportunities to exercise their inner growth through the practice of the Gospel in their activities;
- Places where the children, the youth, the adults, and the elderly have the opportunity to socialize, study, and perform activities together to unite the family under the guidance of Spiritism;
- Retreats of peace that offer participants opportunities for spiritual renewal and fraternal union through the practice of the maxim “Love one another”;
- Nucleuses characterized by the simplicity typical of the first congregations of the nascent Christianity; by the practice of charity; and by the total absence of images, symbols, rituals, or other exterior manifestations; and
- Institutions that represent the fundamental units of the Spiritist Movement.

Their Objectives

The objectives of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:

- To promote the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine, while tending to individuals who:
 - seek enlightenment, guidance, and help for their spiritual, moral, and material problems;
 - wish to get acquainted with and study the Spiritist Doctrine;
 - wish to work, collaborate, and serve in any field of action the Spiritist practice has to offer.

Its Basic Activities

The basic activities of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies are:



- To conduct meetings for the study of the Spiritist Doctrine, in a programmed, methodical, and systematic form, open to individuals of all ages and every cultural and social standing, and aimed at enabling a deep and wide-ranging knowledge of Spiritism in all of its aspects.
- To conduct meetings for the explanation of the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine, the practice of passes (laying on of hands), and to extend fraternal assistance through dialogue to those who approach the Spiritist Centers in search of enlightenment, guidance, help, and spiritual and moral assistance.
- To conduct meetings for the study, education, and practice of mediumship based on Spiritist principles and objectives, thereby enlightening, guiding, and preparing individuals for mediumship activities.
- To conduct meetings for the Spiritist evangelization of children and the youth, in a programmed, methodical, and systematic form, thereby assisting, enlightening, and guiding them within the teachings of the Spiritist Doctrine.
- To carry out the work of dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine through all modes of social communication compatible with the Spiritist principles, such as lectures, conferences, books, newspapers, magazines, bulletins, pamphlets, hand-outs, radio, TV, posters, audio and video tapes.
- To carry out Spiritist assistance activities for the needy by helping them with their most pressing needs, and by enlightening them with the moral teachings of the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine.
- To encourage and offer guidelines to individuals who attend their meetings toward implanting and maintaining the “Gospel at Home” practice, as sustenance for the spiritual harmonization of their families.
- To participate in activities aimed at the union of Spiritists and Spiritist Institutions as well as the unification of the Spiritist Movement by joining their efforts together; summing up their experiences; providing mutual help and support; improving Spiritist activities in general; and strengthening the actions of the Spiritists.
- To perform the administrative tasks necessary to their regular operation in accordance with their organizational structure and in compliance with all applicable local legislation.



A

STUDY MEETINGS OF THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- To carry out study meetings of the Spiritist Doctrine, in a scheduled, methodical or systematized manner. It is intended for people of all ages, of any cultural and social backgrounds, in order to provide a deep and comprehensive knowledge of Spiritism in all its aspects.”

1. Fundamentals

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...”

Jesus (Mathew, 28:19)

“Spiritists! Love one another, that is the first precept; educate yourselves is the second. Within Christianity you will find all the truths. The errors in which Man has become enrooted are all of human origin. Here from beyond the grave, where you thought there was nothing, voices clamour: “Brothers and sisters! Nothing perishes! Jesus Christ is the victor over all evil, you can be the victors over impiety.”

The Spirit of Truth (The Gospel According to Spiritism, chapter VI, item 5)

“A regular course of Spiritism would be professed in order to develop the principles of the science and to develop the taste for serious studies. This course would have the advantage of establishing the unity of principles; of making knowledgeable followers, capable of spreading the Spiritist ideas and of developing a large number of mediums. I consider the course as having in its nature the ability of exercising capital influence on the future of Spiritism and its consequences.”

Allan Kardec - (Posthumous Works-I Project 1868)

“The characteristics of a serious study are the method and the perseverance with which it is carried on.”

Allan Kardec (The Spirits Book - Introduction, VIII)

Thence, the serious, methodical and sequential study of the Spiritist Doctrine, based on the Codification of Kardec, is fundamental to:

- **Get to know the basic principles of the Spiritist Doctrine**, preserving it against distortions and inclusions which ignorance, individualism and misinterpretation may cause;
- **Form educated followers**, who will preserve, through practice, the purity of the doctrinal principles, without any ritual, idolatry or external cult;



- **Expand the Spiritist ideas and disseminate the Doctrine**, in all its **extent**, with the moral benefits that it will bring to Humanity, enabling the individuals to build a future of solidarity in more sound bases.

This activity is, therefore, a priority for all Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies.

2. Organization

- The studies should follow a pre-planned program, which will define schedules as well as the individuals responsible for its accomplishment.
- The duration of the studies should be of one hour and thirty minutes.
- The groups should be composed of 20 to 35 individuals, of both genders, different ages and cultural background. In this manner everyone will be allowed to participate more effectively, attaining a better result from the meeting.
- Initially, 1 or 2 coordinators will conduct the study meetings, which will take place in a previously designated room. If necessary, other groups will be formed, with new coordinators and under the guidance of a General Coordinator.
- The studies of Spiritism should not be accomplished by means of simple lectures, without the participation of others. The participation of each individual should also be motivated, through dialogue, exchange of opinions and ideas, research, study group, always in a fraternal way, with the general objective of studying the Spiritist Doctrine in a deep and comprehensive manner.
- Didactic techniques and audio-visual resources, compatible with the subject of the study, should be used, as much as possible, by the coordinators.
- The course can, at conveniently scheduled times, offer opportunities so that the participants can also bring up other subjects, aiding the training of future collaborators.

3. Development

- **Preparation:** reading of an evangelical lesson from a spiritist book. There are some books that we recommend for this purpose, by the spirit Emmanuel, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier: “*Our Daily Bread*,” “*Way, Truth and Life*,” “*Source of Life*” and “*The Vineyard of Light*.” (3min.)
- **Initial prayer:** It should be simple, clear, objective and concise, seeking, in harmony with Jesus and God, the inner harmonization of the individual and the group. (2min.)
- **Study of the Doctrine:** systematic study of the basic works of the Spiritist Doctrine (The Spirits Book, The Gospel According to the Spiritism, The Mediums’ Book, Genesis, Heaven and Hell), as well as other complementary works. (80min.)



- Final prayer: It should also be simple and concise, expressing gratitude for the opportunity of learning and enjoying fraternal company. (2min.)

4. Observations

- The meetings of Study of Spiritism are intended for adults of all ages and cultural and social background, who wish to study the Spiritist Doctrine.
- The program of the course should be comprised of the triple aspect of Spiritism: science, philosophy and religion.
- In the planning of the program, the comforting character of the Spiritist Doctrine should not be disregarded.
- Punctuality and presence are aspects of great importance that should be observed at all times.
- The workers of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, especially the more direct collaborators, should participate in these studies.

The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity.



B

LECTURE MEETINGS TO EXPLAIN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE, PASSES AND FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH DIALOGUE

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- To conduct meetings for the explanation of the Gospel according to Spiritism, passes, and extend fraternal assistance to those who approach the Spiritist Centers in search of enlightenment, guidance, help, spiritual and moral assistance.

1. Fundamentals

“Come unto me, all ye...”

Jesus (Matthew XI, 28 to 30 – Gospel VI –I)

“My children, within the sentence: Without charity there is no salvation, is enclosed the destiny of mankind, both on Earth and in Heaven. On Earth, because beneath the shadow of this banner all may live in peace, and in Heaven, because those who have practiced it will find grace in God’s eyes.”

Paul, the apostle (GAE – XV, item 10)

“The true spiritist can be recognized by their moral transformation and by the efforts they employ in order to dominate their bad instincts.”

Allan Kardec– GAE, Chap. XVII, item 4

“There are various ways of practicing charity, (...) You, who are Spiritists, can be charitable in the manner in which you behave towards others who think differently than you do, or by inducing those who are less enlightened to believe without shocking them, without attacking their own convictions. You can also attract them lovingly to our meetings, so they may listen to us and so that we may know how to discover a way into their hearts. All this is just one aspect of charity.”

Carita (GAE, Chap. XIII, item 14)

These meetings, as the name indicates, develop the following activities:

- Explanation of the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine with the objective of enlightenment, guidance, spiritual and moral assistance to the participants;
- Passes with the objective of the mobilization of spiritual and fraternal resources intended for the people in need of spiritual and moral assistance;
- Fraternal assistance through dialogue with the objective of assisting people who come to the Spiritist Center seeking orientation, enlightenment and help for their spiritual and moral needs.

Those activities should be carried out in an integrated way, even if they are held on different days and in separate rooms.



B.1

LECTURE MEETINGS TO EXPLAIN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

2. Organization

- The meeting should be held in a room as ample as possible, having as furniture: one table with chairs for the Director and Speaker, and enough chairs for all the participants. Appropriate audio-visual resources should be available, if possible.
- The Director of the meeting and the Speaker should be selected beforehand by the direction of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society.
- Both should have good knowledge of Spiritism, with a satisfactory level of communication skills and respectable moral-evangelical-Spiritist conduct.
- Both should be cordial and dedicate their attention to everyone, keeping in mind that their position is one of a humble and dedicated worker, who works in a situation of equality to the other workers.
- The participants should maintain an attitude of respectful attention, seeking in the evangelical teachings the necessary lessons for their moral improvement and spiritual growth.
- The participants should be invited, in the beginning of the meeting, to maintain a calm, balanced and harmonious mental posture, which renders the opportunity to receive the spiritual assistance that the Spiritual Friends carry out from the beginning of the meeting.

3. Development

At the schedule time, the Director of the meeting and the Speaker will proceed with the assigned tasks:

- Preparation: reading of an evangelical lesson from a spiritist book. Some books, indicated as a suggestion, are the ones by the spirit Emmanuel, channeled by Francisco Cândido Xavier: “*Our Daily Bread*,” “*Way, Truth and Life*,” “*Source of Life*” and “*The Vineyard of Light*.” (3min.)
- Initial prayer: It should be simple, clear, objective and concise, seeking, in harmony with Jesus and God, the inner harmonization of the individual and the group. (2min.)
- Explanation of the Gospel: Reading of sequential items from “*The Gospel According to Spiritism*,” with comments clarifying its contents. (30 to 35min)



- Final prayer: It should be also simple and concise, expressing gratitude for the opportunity of learning and enjoying fraternal company. (2min.)
- Clarification from the Director about the following activity – the giving of Passes: Explain to the participants that the assistance from the passes will only be given to those who are interested in receiving it; also explain that the spiritual assistance doesn't happen only during the passes but throughout the entire lecture; and advise that those who stay in the room should continue praying in silence until the end of the assistance. (3min.)

B.2

PASSES

2. Organization

- It is intended for people in need of spiritual and moral assistance.
- The Director of the meeting should explain to the public what pass is, what its purpose and the need to adopt a mental state of meditation, prayer, and respectful silence, so that each individual can benefit from the spiritual assistance.
- The pass will only be applied to the people who wish to receive it.
- The remaining participants of the meeting can leave the room, quietly, after the end of the lecture.
- The group that will give passes will be formed of workers of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, who have good knowledge of Spiritism and who are spiritually prepared for the task.
- The group that will perform the passes, will be knowledgeable and trained; one person will be responsible for the task. The pass-givers should gather in the pass room, in silence, listening to the Evangelical lecture, while they await the moment of performing the passes.
- It is preferable that a specific room be designated for this task, which will have simple furniture: a table, to hold the container for the magnetization of the water, and chairs for the assisted people. In the case that a separate room is not available, the pass can be applied in the same place as the lecture of the Gospel, being maintained, though, the atmosphere of silence and prayer needed for the adequate assistance.
- At the end of the lecture of the Gospel, the director of the pass and the pass-givers will ask for the assistance of the Spiritual Benefactors for the task that follows, as well as for the magnetization of the water intended for those being helped.
- The containers with water to be magnetized will be placed in the appropriate place.
- The participants will be guided to the pass room, in silence and in numbers corresponding to the number of workers, by a collaborator of the group previously selected and trained.



- The assisted person should be advised not to manifest any preference for a specific worker.
- The Group Director should, during the meeting, and whenever necessary, remind the participants to maintain an atmosphere of peace, harmony and spiritual elevation, necessary for the assistance that is intended for the individuals present.
- Each member of the group should apply the pass individually, with simplicity and without exaggerated gestures, heavy breathing, touching the patient, yawning, making noises, ostensible manifestation of disincarnate spirits and without transmitting personal guidance to the assisted person.
- The benefits of the passes can be provided to those who are homebound or who have difficulties leaving their residence, by a group of pass-givers, never by a person alone, designated by the Director of the session.

3. Development

- Initial prayer: at the end of the Gospel lecture, the director of passes and the pass-givers, who should already be in the room designated for the pass session, will ask the assistance of the Spiritual Plan for the task that will begin, as well as for the magnetization of the water intended for those being assisted. (2min.)
- Performance of the Passes: Those who wish to receive passes will be guided to the room where the workers will be already prepared for the task. They should leave the room in groups after the pass, until the last group is assisted.
- Final prayer: At the conclusion of the task, after the last assisted group leaves, the person responsible for the team of pass-givers, or whoever the director indicates, will say the final prayer, with respectful, simple and brief gratefulness for the received help and for the work and learning opportunity. (2min).

B.3

FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH DIALOGUE

2. Organization

- It is intended for the people who come to the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society seeking orientation, enlightenment and moral-spiritual help.
- The assistance, which shouldn't have an obligatory character, will be carried on preferably before the meeting of Study of the Gospel.
- Whenever possible, it should be held in a separate room, away from the other activities of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, preserving the necessary privacy, so that the afflictions and the problems of the assisted individuals can be kept private, as well as to avoid embarrassments that can impede the dialogue.



- In the case that there are no separate rooms, the assistance dialogue can be held in a part of the meeting room, but before the entrance of the participants of the Study of the Gospel.
- The furniture should consist of a small table, the basic books, such as *“The Gospel According to Spiritism,”* and *“The Spirits Book,”* and messages for distribution.
- It is advisable to have available the addresses of other spiritist institutions, with their meeting schedules and activities, as well as other institutions that can be useful to the assisted.
- It is also important to have a list of the basic spiritist books and other complementary books that are related to the type of assistance being provided, which can be suggested as an aid to achieve spiritual balance. In this case, the level of difficulty and knowledge of the Doctrine of the assisted person should be taken into account.

Precautions the worker should take in the task of fraternal assistance through dialogue:

- Be conscious of the responsibility, be prepared, and identify oneself with the task;
- Have good knowledge of Spiritism, high moral conduct and participation in the activities of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society;
- Base the answers, information and enlightenment according to the Spiritist Doctrine's principles and the moral of the Gospel, avoiding to emit opinions of a personal character;
- Remember that the task is to listen to the person being assisted, directing the dialogue towards the aspects that can be relevant in guiding the person in his/her difficulties, without being caught up in your own curiosity;
- Receive the assisted with fraternity and kindness, listening with attention and interest;
- Avoid becoming emotionally involved with the problem, and attuning to the vibratory level of the assisted;
- Avoid feeling shocked, judging, condemning (even intimately), or adopting attitude of prejudice, listening carefully, and maintaining charitable serenity and impartiality;
- Maintain the necessary privacy about everything said or heard, in respect for the person's pain;
- Be prepared for the task on the previous day, by being in harmony with the Spiritual Benefactors that help in the work, and by reading edifying materials;
- Enter the room minutes before the beginning of the work, with elevated mental level;
- Maintain a simple and kind behavior of fraternal energy; be humble and simple in speaking, in the gestures and attitudes, and in the way of getting dressed;
- Have empathy (put oneself in the position of the other) in order to better understand one's problems, involving the person in vibrations of peace and happiness;
- Always remind the assisted person that the improvement depends on his/her own effort; that love, forgiveness, honesty and solidarity, as well as understanding and



good work are the paths to balance and harmony, while hatred, envy, selfishness, pride and sadness are doors to derange and unbalance;

- Guide the assisted to the meetings of Explanation of the Gospel and passes, whenever necessary, and also suggest the participation in groups of social work and meetings of study of the Doctrine;
- Guide the assisted, whenever possible, to receive passes and magnetized water, to pray, to read uplifting material, and to the practice of reading the Gospel at Home.
- Before giving any guidance, seek the support of the Higher Spirituality, opening the intuitive channels in order to receive the necessary inspiration and guidance;
- Don't relate negative personal experiences and avoid any statements that could provoke embarrassment or uneasiness;
- Talk with the assisted using simple, yet appropriate words, and always be fraternal, respectful and true;
- Keep the door of the assistance room open, allowing easy access and facilitating in the possible need of help;
- Schedule the return of the assisted person, if necessary, or leave to the person the option of doing it;
- Emphasize to the assisted person that his/her own effort, based on the moral of the Gospel, is fundamental in the process of recovering his/her inner balance;
- Seek the help of the meeting Coordinator and other workers of the group when assisting more complex cases;
- Always try to bond the assisted person to Jesus, the Superior Spirits, and the Gospel, in order to avoid creating a personal dependence;
- Orient the assisted person with regards to the different activities of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society and the disciplinary rules that direct the work.

3. Development

- The director and the workers of the Fraternal Assistance should be gathered, ready to begin the tasks, about fifteen minutes prior to the hour established for the public attendance.
- Preparation: reading of evangelical lessons from a spiritist book. Some books, indicated as a suggestion, are the ones by the spirit Emmanuel, channeled by Francisco Cândido Xavier: "*Our Daily Bread*," "*Way, Truth and Life*," "*Source of Life*" and "*The Vineyard of Light*." (3min.)
- Prayer: It should be simple, clear, objective and concise, seeking harmony with the Spiritual Plan and the participants' harmonization. (2min.)
- Public Assistance: During the time previously scheduled.
- Final prayer: Simple and concise, of gratefulness and closing of the task. (2min)

4. Observations

- Punctuality and assiduity should be observed in all tasks.



- Arriving a few minutes in advance provides the opportunity for renewal and spiritual preparation.
- Conversations should be avoided in the room before the beginning of the meeting, giving preference to silent readings.
- There should be avoided the collection of contributions, donations or sales in the public meetings in order to avoid characterizing payment for benefits.
- Manifestations of disincarnates should be avoided in the public meetings, which will happen in private meetings for that end.
- On the day of the task, spiritual preparation is indispensable, through readings and prayer, but, most importantly, through the control of emotions.
- During the Evangelical lecture, though, the attitude should be of attention.
- Only people with good Spiritist knowledge and proven moral suitability should be invited to give the evangelical lecture
- In case the lecturer makes statements or references contrary to that of the Spiritist principles and postulates, it will be the task of the meeting's director to clarify the subject, basing arguments in the Spiritist Doctrine.
- Applause and noise, even if sincere manifestations, should be avoided, preserving the harmony and balance of the atmosphere.
- Attacks, censorship or disrespectful comments to other religions should not be allowed in the meetings.
- Verbal expressions that are not in accordance with the Spiritist principles should be avoided in the lectures and conversations, such as: luck or bad luck, supernatural, miracles, etc. It is preferable to use spiritist terminology.
- Lectures, discussions and political propaganda should not be allowed in the Spiritist lectern, even if disguised and subtle.
- Smoking should not be allowed in the facilities of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society.
- The activities of this department should be planned in advance, by elaborating the program and schedule with dates and staff.
- The tasks should be accomplished, as much as possible, in rotation or turns, so that all workers have the opportunity of learning through service.
- All workers should be motivated to participate in the courses offered by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, particularly the Meeting of Study and Education of Mediumship and the Systematic Study of the Spiritist Doctrine.

The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity



C

STUDY MEETINGS FOR THE EDUCATION AND PRACTICE OF MEDIUMSHIP

- The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:
- “To provide study meetings for the education and practice of mediumship based on Spiritist principles and objectives, enlightening, guiding, and preparing workers for medianimic activities.”

1. Fundamentals

“It would be difficult for us to compute the number of those who have come to us since we have been occupied with Spiritism; and how many of these have we seen, who have remained indifferent or incredulous in presence of the most evident facts, and who have only been convinced by rational explanation; how many others who had been predisposed to conviction by reasoning; how many, in fine, who were already persuaded of the truth of Spiritism, though they had seen nothing, because they had read and had understood the rationale of the matter! We therefore say, from our own experience, that the best method of acquiring a knowledge of Spiritism is to bring reasoning to bear on the subject, first of all and afterwards to confirm reasoning by experiment.

Allan Kardec (LM, 1^a part, Chap. III – Item 31)

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Holy Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions. Your old men will have dreams.”

(Acts, 2:17)

“Mediumship is that light that would be spread on every flesh and promised by the Divine Master at the Consoler's times, now in course on Earth.”

Emmanuel (The Consoler, question no. 382)

“In the field of mediumship, do not forget that a duty correctly fulfilled is the compass that will propitiate you the right direction.”

Emmanuel (Religion of the Spirits, “Mediunidade e Dever”)

“The first enemy of the medium resides within his/her own self. Usually it is the ego, ambition, ignorance or rebelliousness - in the voluntary ignorance of one's own duties at the light of the Gospel. These are factors of moral inferiority that, quite often, will drive the medium towards lack of vigilance, frivolity and to the confusion of the unproductive fields.”

Emmanuel (The Consoler, subject 410)



“In this manner, even if you feel imperfect and unbalanced, unhappy or ill, make good use of your medianimic forces, assisting and enlightening, aiding and serving, in the assistance to your fellow beings, because the good that you do will come back from the others to your own road, as a blessing of God to shine upon you.”

Emmanuel (Seara dos Médiuns, item no. 12 “In Mediumship”)

The Study Meetings of Education and Practice of Mediumship are private meetings destined for people who have interest in participating in activities that have as their purpose to lead the student to obtain the necessary knowledge for the medianimic practice, according to the teachings of the Spiritist Doctrine, through the study and the education of mediumship.

2. Organization

- It is important that the privacy of the meeting be maintained and the attendance of every participant be consistent.
- A director and two or three assistants are required for this meeting. The assistants should be properly trained and prepared to substitute the director when s/he cannot be present.
- The number of participants should not exceed 35.
- The duration of the meeting should be between 1h30 to 2:00 hours.
- After the start of the meeting, the entrance of latecomers should not be permitted.
- The study should be open to all participants.
- Participants younger than 18 years of age are not allowed to attend the meetings.
- A sequenced program based on the basic principles of the Spiritist Doctrine should be elaborated and available to the participants, serving as guidelines for the study and the practice of mediumship.
- The medianimic faculties that the participants possess will be exercised during the time of the work, after a preliminary period of study. There will be no need for a specific meeting for this purpose.
- When the candidate to the practice of mediumship is afflicted by spiritual disturbances, s/he should first be guided to Study meetings of the Gospel and Passes. In addition, his/her name should be included in the spiritual treatment of the disobsession meeting. Once this phase is over, the participant will return to the meeting of study, education, and practice of mediumship.
- The participants of this meeting should be advised not to attend mediumship meetings in other Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies.
- The practice of mediumship requires spontaneity, therefore, the director of the meeting should not insist that mediums obtain a particular spiritual communication, or invoke the presence of a particular entity, in order to avoid mystifications, whether conscious or not.
- The spiritual direction (not the incarnate one) is in charge of choosing and guiding the Spirits that will communicate.



- It is also required to refrain from asking the communicant Spirit about its personal information, such as: name, locale, and dates. If necessary, the Spirit will provide it willingly.
- In the practice of mediumship, the medium should be oriented to control the medianimic manifestations that s/he will receive by refraining from heavy breathing, wailing, screaming, noises and contortions of the mouth, feet and hands, violent gestures, and inappropriate or rude vocabulary.
- The student medium should be aware that s/he does not possess any grandiose or transcendental mission, but rather that s/he is a simple instrument to intermediate the messages from the spiritual world, thereby having an extraordinary opportunity of exercising humility and promoting his/her spiritual growth.
- The medium should learn to silence any personal manifestation of vanity, being aware that mediumship comes to his/her hands as an instrument of regenerating work.
- The medium should participate in all the courses that the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society offers, such as: Systematic Study of the Spiritist Doctrine, Courses of Passes and others, as well as, meetings of Spiritual Assistance, Attendance and Social Promotion, with the purpose of learning and achieving spiritual balance.
- During the mediumship meetings, the participants should focus on the moral sense of the facts and lessons presented and not on the phenomena.
- The communications received through mediumship should be thoroughly examined; they should only be accepted if they are in accordance with the essence of the Spiritist Doctrine, even if they are signed by illustrious or well-known personalities.
- The constant and permanent inquiries of life's problems to the protecting Spirits should be avoided. These are problems that are up to us to resolve and we should refrain from wasting the Spirits' precious time.
- One should learn to seek in the teachings of Spiritism the necessary guidance and solutions to the problems that life offers in order to avoid following the exclusive orientation of the Spirits.
- The director should not take on the function of trance medium during the same meeting, because s/he would not perform any of these responsibilities well.
- A medium should not be forced to receive a particular Spirit. The Spiritual Mentors of the meeting are the ones who will make the selection of communications. The selection will be done according to the affinity that the communicant Spirit will have with the medium.
- If a medium is encountering difficulty in transmitting the communication, the group should help him/her with passes and prayers.
- It is convenient to have just one trance communication at a time in order to better assist the communicant Spirit. In addition, the participants will be able to hear the communication, thereby benefiting from its content.
- In case simultaneous manifestations occur, the director should ask the communicant Spirits to await their turn in silence.



- It is not obligatory that all the mediums receive communications. It is, however, imperative that all the participants remain in prayer and concentrated to maintain the vibratory level of the meeting.
- The mediumship meetings should take place in simple rooms without excessive decorations, or items such as: pictures, images, symbols, or any other objects that may suggest the idea of a ritual.
- Smoking and alcoholic beverages must be prohibited in the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society. This also applies to uniforms, candles, incense, and amulets.
- The practice of acts that may characterize religious or mediumistic professionalism should be prohibited. The mediumistic practice should never be transformed into a source of financial gains or material well-being.

3. Development

- The meeting should begin on time at the previously determined hour.
- The place, previously designated, should be prepared beforehand.
- The director, assistants, and participants should await the beginning of the meeting in respectful silence or while reading uplifting material.
- Preparation: reading of evangelical lessons contained in spiritist books such as: “Our Daily Bread,” “Way, Truth and Life,” “Source of Life” and “Vineyard of Light,” by the Spirit Emmanuel, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier. (3min.)
- Initial prayer: simple, clear, objective, concise, to provide attunement with God, Jesus, and the Superior Spirits, as well as to achieve inner personal harmony and that of the group. (2min.)
- Study of the Doctrine: Study of a topic previously established, following an elaborated program, according to the work of the Spiritist Codification, especially “The Spirits’ Book,” “The Mediums’ Books,” and “The Gospel According to Spiritism,” as well as other complementary works of the Spiritist Doctrine. (30 to 45 min)
- Mediumship Practice: exercise and practice of mediumship in an organized way and under the orientation of the director of the meeting. (40 to 50min.)
- Radiations or Vibrations: it is the union of emotions through prayer to those who are sick and in need. It should have a general character, but it could also ask for world peace, fraternity among humankind, understanding between all religions and between the workers of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society. (3min.)
- Final prayer: It should be simple and concise, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to learn and for fraternal coexistence. (2min.)
- Evaluation: This is the opportunity that each participant will have of reporting what s/he felt or saw during the meeting. This information is important to guide the meeting’s director as to how s/he can provide orientation to each of the mediums. (10min.)



4. Observations

- Upon consideration that mediumship is a powerful instrument used to transmit knowledge and comfort, as well as being a valuable regenerative process for the Spirit, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should carefully prepare conscious, responsible, and enlightened mediums to carry out this task with nobility.
- Considering that those mediums who possess ostensive mediumship reveal great emotional sensibility, a great deal of friendship and affection towards beginners is required from the director and the other members of the Mediumship Group.
- Being that meetings for the study, education, and practice of mediumship are a specialized work of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, it is pivotal that everyone involved in these meetings not only prepare themselves spiritually for the task, but also seek, by means of constant study, the knowledge of Spiritism in order to fulfill their tasks well.

C.1

DISOBSESSION MEETING

1. Fundamentals

“Good spirits are more powerful than bad ones, and their will suffices to keep off the latter; but they only assist those who second the action of their will by the efforts they themselves make for their own amendment; when no such efforts are made, good spirits retire, and their withdrawal leaves the field free to the evil ones, who thus become, in certain cases, instruments of punishment; the higher spirits allowing the lower ones to act, for the accomplishment of this end.”

Allan Kardec (The Mediums’ Book –2nd part–chap. XXIII – Item 252)

“Each Spiritist Center must possess and maintain a team of workers of disobsession, at least for its own defense and preservation, in order to assist the victims of spiritual disorientation that roam the doors of the center.”

André Luiz (Introduction, Disobsession)

“... we ask the Master to sustain us all, disincarnate and incarnate workers, in the task to be accomplished because, whether obsessed or obsessor, consciously or unconsciously thrown into a state of unbalance; whether in this world or in the beyond, they are our brothers and sisters begging for our assistance, companions that belong to our terrestrial family. The assistance to the family is not a ministry that we should relegate to the sphere of the angels, but rather a nontransferable obligation that we are obliged to embrace as our task. ”

Emmanuel (“A Different Book”, Disobsession)

The Disobsession meeting is a closed meeting that has as its objective to assist incarnates



and disincarnates enveloped in processes of spiritual readjustment. It also seeks to improve the defense of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, as well as of its collaborators, against the attacks of opposing spirits of the Spiritist Movement. Its members should be the workers that have already participated in the Meetings of Study, Education and Practice of Mediumship.

2. Organization

- The meeting is exclusively for workers of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society who already possess sufficient theoretical, evangelical, moral, and specific knowledge about mediumship.
- The team of workers should be composed of approximately fourteen members with the following functions: director, two to four counselors, two to four pass-givers, and two to six trance mediums.
- The presence of individuals with spiritual disturbances (spiritual attachment/obsession) should not be permitted nor that of visitors.
- The duration of the meeting should be approximately 1:30 to 2:00 hours.
- The director should not take on the function of trance medium during the same meeting, because s/he would not perform any of these responsibilities well.
- If the number of participants increases over the limit, sub-groups can be formed for mediumistic activity, or a new meeting should be formed.
- Punctuality and assiduity should be observed at all times by every member of the meeting.
- Once the meeting starts, the entrance of latecomers won't be permitted.
- This meeting should always be in the location of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society because of the spiritual resources there existent that offer greater safety for the work.
- The participants of the Disobsession Meeting should observe, particularly on the day of the meeting, some important guidelines: frugal meals, physical recovery (through brief rest), spiritual recovery (through uplifting reading), and physical and mental hygiene.
- If, in the preparatory phase of the meeting, sick or obsessed people arrive without notice at the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, they can be admitted to the meeting to receive passes and guidance, but should leave immediately afterwards.
- It is convenient to have just one trance communication at a time in order to assist the communicant Spirit better. In addition, the participants will be able to hear the communication, thereby benefiting from its content.
- The medium should be prepared to control the medianimic manifestations that s/he will receive by refraining from heavy breathing, wailing, screaming, noises and contortions of the mouth, feet, and hands, violent gestures, and inappropriate or rude vocabulary. The morality of the medium neutralizes the influence of the imperfections of the Spirit.



- The mediums should be prepared to transmit the manifestations with simplicity and fidelity.
- The team of workers of the Disobsession Meeting should be set some minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting. They should enter the room in silence and meditate or read uplifting material until the beginning of the meeting.

3. Development

3.1. Preparation: reading of evangelical lessons contained in spiritist books such as: “Our Daily Bread,” “Way, Truth and Life,” “Source of Life” and “Vineyard of Light,” by the Spirit Emmanuel, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier. (3min.)

3.2. Initial prayer: simple, clear, objective, concise, to provide attunement with God, Jesus, and the Superior Spirits, as well as to achieve inner personal harmony and that of the group. (2min.)

3.3. Study of the Doctrine: Study of a topic previously established, following an elaborated program, according to the work of the Spiritist Codification, especially “The Spirits’ Book,” “The Mediums’ Books,” and “The Gospel According to Spiritism,” as well as other complementary works about mediumship such as: “In the Domain of Mediumship,” and “Missionaries of Light,” by the Spirit André Luiz, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier, and “Seara de Mediums,” by the Spirit Emmanuel, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier.

After the reading, participants will be allowed to make brief comments on the parts by which they were deeply touched. (15 to 20 min.)

- 3.4. - Mediumistic Activity: The members of the group will position themselves for the beginning of the mediumistic practice. The director of the meeting will remind the collaborators the objective of their specific task, so that, with simplicity and naturalness, they make themselves available to the spiritual team. (60 min.)
- 3.5. - Vibrations: After the spiritual attendance, they will make the vibrations or radiations, addressed to the assisted, sick Spirits and those who are in need. (2 min.)
- 3.6. - Closing prayer: it should be concise and objective, expressing gratefulness to the spiritual mentors, Jesus, and God for the accomplished work. (1min.)
- 3.7. - Evaluation: After the closing, a brief evaluation can be made where any doubts may be clarified.



4. Observations

- The communicant Spirit, whether persecutor or disturbed, should be treated as being spiritually ill, thereby deserving respect and affection.
- The members of the disobsession team should consider themselves nurses, receiving and assisting with kindness and affection, the Spirits in need of treatment just as they would assist sick individuals in need of help.
- Vibrations of peace, happiness, hope, balance, harmony, and love are indispensable in the presence of the suffering entities.
- It is necessary to remember that obsessors are quite often victims of secular dramas who demand justice.
- It is necessary, through counseling, to exhort them to forgiveness so that they can remove the chains of hate that link them to their victims in order to resume to a rehabilitating existence.
- Through the dialogue, the Spirits should be guided toward a positive mental posture of hope and faith in the future and in God.
- In the dialogue with disturbed and unhappy entities, one should remember that the Spirits deserve respect and affection. One should envelope them with fraternal energy and sweetness.
- The disobsession team should be sufficiently prepared to ward off curiosity or sectarianism, avoiding reproachable thoughts and criticism, or any judgmental ideas.
- Under no circumstance should we engage in discussions, condemnation, or ironical remarks towards the communicant Spirit.
- The importance of work, study, and behavioral change should be constantly reminded.
- The affection displayed in our words and the fervor of prayer is imperative.
- The dialogue with the obsessor should not have a character of evangelical preaching or of a speech. It should last the necessary time so that a basic understanding may be achieved, some information may be provided, and a prayer may be said.
- Inquiries about names, dates, and places are not advisable, because the memory of the Spirit can be deeply affected, as it can occur to incarnates who are affected by a serious illness.
- In order for the disobsession task to be harmoniously accomplished, it is necessary that all the members of the group try to establish fraternal links among themselves, thus enjoying an amicable relationship.

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D

MEETINGS OF SPIRITIST EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- “To provide meetings of **Spiritist Education for Children and Youth**, in a scheduled, methodical, or systematized way, assisting, enlightening, and guiding them according to the teachings of Spiritism.”

1. **Fundamentals**

- *Why must a spirit go through infancy?*
- *“The purpose of incarnation is to improve the spirit. A spirit is more impressionable during childhood, when the impressions it receives more easily mold its personality, and therefore promote its progress. To that end, everyone entrusted with the education of a child should contribute.” (The Spirits’ Book - Q. 383)*

With this purpose, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should offer meetings of Spiritist Education for Children and Youth to assist, enlighten, and guide them according to the teachings of Spiritism, thereby contributing to their educational process, while also preparing them to assume, in the future, great responsibilities in the Spiritist Movement.

2. **Organization**

2.1. Coordination

With the objective of maintaining the unit of work, the Spiritist Education for Children and Youth should be carried out under the direction of a General Coordinator that will guide and supervise the planning of activities and their execution. It is recommended that two sectors be created: one directed to children and another to the youth. Each one of these sectors should have a Director that will act under the supervision of the General Coordinator.

2.2. Formation of Team of Workers

The team of workers for the Spiritist Education for Children and Youth should be composed, whenever possible, of the following participants: General Coordinator, Children’s Coordinator, Youth Coordinator, and Teachers (responsible for directing meetings for children and youth). It is also recommended to have the support of a secretary or a clerk in order to manage the registration process and to perform any administrative duties necessary to sustain the work.

The team should be prepared by means of courses and specific training in the necessary pedagogic and administrative knowledge required to accomplish the task. This preparation, however, should be continuous in order to present the necessary conditions to



face the constant challenges of the educational process. In addition to that pedagogic-administrative preparation, the members of the team should try to maintain, in methodical and continuous ways, their studies of the Spiritist Doctrine.

2.3. Organization of the groups

The children and youth groups should be organized according to age. This is an important measure to guarantee a better understanding of the contents of the studied subjects. The children's groups will be composed of children of 5 to 12 years of age and the youth groups will be composed of youths of 13 to 21 years of age.

3. Development

- A systematized study should be implemented for the Spiritist Education for Children and Youth. It should be elaborated, having as its basis, the books of the Spiritist Codification and other complementary books. Techniques and resources that will facilitate the learning process for Spiritist knowledge should be used in this course.
- The Spiritist Education for Children and Youth meeting should be offered at least once a week and last approximately one and a half hours.
- Every Spiritist Education for Children and Youth meeting should begin and end with a prayer.

4. Observations

- During the Spiritist Education for Children and Youth meetings, no mediumistic activity should occur. The children and youth in need of assistance regarding mediumship should be assisted at specific meetings, following the rules and regulations of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society.
- The artistic activities developed by the children and youth will only have pedagogic objectives or aims to disseminate Spiritism.
- The work for the Spiritist Education for Children and Youth should be subjected to constant reevaluation so that it may be maintained within the objectives established by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society.

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E

WORK OF DISSEMINATION OF THE SPIRITIST DOCTRINE

The Groups, Centers, and Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- “To disseminate the Spiritist Doctrine, in accordance with Spiritist teachings, by means of communications media, such as: lectures, conferences, books, newspapers, magazines, bulletins, pamphlets, messages, radio, TV, posters, video, audio, and the internet.”

1. Fundamentals

- *“Publicity on a large scale, in newspapers with a greatest circulation, would bring to the whole world, even the most remote places, the knowledge of the spiritist ideas, awakening the desire to learn about them in depth, and by multiplying the number of followers, it would impose silence to its discreditors, who would soon thereafter have to relent due to the majority of the general opinion.”*

Allan Kardec—(Posthumous Works - Project 1868)

Therefore, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should take on the work of disseminating the Spiritist Doctrine, according to its capacity and in observance of Spiritist teachings, through all communications media, such as: lectures, conferences, books, newspapers, magazines, bulletins, pamphlets, messages, radio, TV, posters, video, audio and the internet.

2. Organization

2.1. *Coordination*

The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should organize a sector or department to develop the work of disseminating the Spiritist Doctrine, appointing a General Coordinator or Director to supervise all activities. Due to the many different resources available for the dissemination of Spiritism, it is recommended that the work be divided among various sub-sectors. Each of these sub-sectors should have a Coordinator or a responsible person who will work under the supervision of the General Coordinator.

3. Development

The dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine can be achieved by means of:

- lectures or public conferences in the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, or in larger auditoriums designed for bigger audiences;
- publication and free distribution of brochures, messages, folders, newspapers, spiritist reviews, and books;
- elaboration and distribution of an informative newsletter about the activities offered by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society;
- newspaper or review edition for internal and external distribution;



- sale of books, newspapers, and spiritist reviews;
- library organization;
- radio and television programs;
- writing articles for non-spiritist newspapers;
- a website.

4. Observations

- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be strict as to which lecturers are invited to speak at public meetings. They should possess a sound knowledge of the Spiritist Doctrine and good communication skills.
- Every public meeting organized by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should begin and end with a prayer.
- The location of the public meetings should be previously prepared with any necessary materials to conduct the work, such as: microphones, chalk board, overhead projector, video, television, computer, screen, multimedia projector, and/or audio/video recording equipment.
- Authorization or cession of copyrights for recordings or any other form of edition should be obtained beforehand.
- No material with the purpose of disseminating Spiritism should be published, sold, or distributed without being thoroughly examined as to its faithfulness to Spiritist principles.
- When distributing books, one should give preference to the 5 books of the Spiritist Codification, especially, *The Spirits' Book* and *The Gospel According to Spiritism*.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should make sure that the material destined for publication is written in a simple, clear, and objective way, while still being faithful to spiritist principles, in order to reach all of those who are interested in expanding their knowledge.
- The media should only be used for the dissemination of Spiritism and never to attack people or institutions, in order to prevent scandal and unbalance from settling or spreading through the Spiritist Movement.
- The sale of books, newspapers, and spiritist reviews should be accomplished in a way that will not be misinterpreted as retribution for the benefits received in the evangelical and assistance activities of the institution.
- For the same reason, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be careful not to launch campaigns or promote assistance during the lectures or public conferences.
- The rules and regulations of the Biblioteconomy should be observed whenever possible in the organization of the Library.

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F

SERVICE OF ASSISTANCE AND SPIRITIST SOCIAL PROMOTION

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- “To provide services of assistance and Spiritist social promotion designed for the poor and needy who are seeking material aid: providing for their more immediate needs; offering work opportunities and courses for their professional and personal development; and enlightening them with the moral teachings of the Gospel under the light of Spiritism.”

1. Fundamentals

- *What is the true meaning of the word charity as employed by Jesus?*

"Compassion for everyone, tolerance for the imperfections of others, and forgiveness of all offenses."

Love and charity are the complements of the law of justice. To love our neighbor is to do him all the good in our power, all that we wish might be done for ourselves.

According to Jesus, charity is not restricted to giving money to the need. It relates to all our relationships, regardless of the rank and social position involved. By fostering tolerance, charity recognizes that all of us, without exception, are in need of tolerance. Charity teaches us not to look down on those who have less than we do. All too often we are quick to lavish deference on the rich, while making no effort to be at least courteous to the needy. Such social ineptitude only adds humiliation to lives that already carry considerable hardships. The truly charitable person makes a genuine effort to treat as equals even those who worldly conventions place at the lowest end of the scale.

(The Spirits' Book, question 886)

Whenever possible, and according to the particularities of the environment in which it participates, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should offer the services of assistance and Spiritist social promotion, that comprises the practice of charity according to the broader definition of the word by Spiritism, to individuals in socio-economic, moral, or spiritual need. The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should attend to the individuals more immediate needs, seeking thereafter, to provide work opportunities and courses that will contribute to their professional development. In addition, the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should enlighten them through the moral teachings of the Gospel under the light of Spiritism. This service, whether provided to adults, youths, or children, should not overlook the need to assist the entire family, as a way of improving the family's living conditions.



2. Organization

2.1. *Coordination*

In order for this area of work to be successful, the Services of assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion provided by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be carried out under the direction of a General Coordinator who will guide and supervise the completion and manner of execution of all previously planned activities. It is recommended that the work be divided among various sub-sectors. Each of these sub-sectors should have a Coordinator or responsible person who will work under the supervision of the General Coordinator.

2.2. Formation of the Team of Workers

A - Recruitment of Volunteers - The workers of assistance and Spiritist social promotion should be recruited, preferably, among those who participate in the meetings of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, and who are interested in working for their inner improvement, following the teachings of the Gospel in their daily lives, thereby expanding their capacity to love through the practice of Spiritist-Christian charity.

B - The Preparation of Workers. - The workers' preparation for the tasks of assistance should be accomplished as follows:

- By means of the study of Spiritism, especially by regularly attending the study meetings of the Spiritist Doctrine that the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society offers.
- By means of courses, studies and specific trainings destined for the services of assistance and Spiritist social promotion.

2.3. *Acquisition of material resources*

The means of obtaining resources for the services of assistance and Spiritist social promotion should be strictly selected by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, in order to avoid those resources which may be considered inappropriate under the light of Spiritist principles and which may result in a conflict of interests.

3. Development

3.1. *Elaboration of the Work Planning*

Improvisation should not be part of the service of assistance and Spiritist social promotion. The planning of activities and the constant evaluation of their results are indispensable, in order to ensure that the objectives of the work are attained. There are some fundamental requirements to be highlighted in the planning of the work:



- A - To define the target-audience - The criteria for determining whether a person is eligible for assistance should be previously established by identifying, through research, the needs of the community.
- B - Planning of Activities - It is necessary to establish the activities to be developed and the manner of their execution. Doctrinal guidance and assistance through passes should be included in these plans. Activities of assistance should be planned in concordance with the other activities of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society.
- C - Evaluation - It is necessary to maintain updated reports so that, through statistical analysis, one can accurately measure productivity, and determine whether objectives have been attained.

4. Observations

- The Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion performed by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be conducted in ways that mediate the deliverance of material and spiritual aid, being careful, however, not to make any impositions on any individual's beliefs, so as to create a sensitive and effective approach to the individual's moral renewal, which is the greatest objective of Spiritism.
- The methods and modern techniques, once evaluated under the light of Spiritism, should be employed in the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion, with aims to achieve better results in the scheduled activities.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society of a small scale should only seek to perform occasional services of assistance in order not to compromise themselves financially, allowing for the growth of the group to occur gradually, which will result in greater human and financial resources.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society that wishes to perform works of assistance for children, seniors, and the sick and needy in general, through day-care centers, shelters, nursing homes, hospitals etc., should take care to always maintain the work's Spiritist character.
- The directors of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should properly prepare volunteers for their tasks in the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion. In addition, they should constantly be expanding their knowledge of Spiritism, as a way of ensuring that the results of their work are in accordance with the objectives of Spiritism.
- The workers of the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion should not receive any financial remuneration for the services rendered.
- All records of financial transactions of the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion should, periodically, be provided to the cooperators/donors/sponsors, as a way of keeping them informed of the financial activities in relation to the work executed.



- All financial transactions that are not in accordance with the Spiritist character of the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion performed by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be definitively rejected.
- The workers of the Service of Assistance and Spiritist Social Promotion should try to be informed of the socio-economic and spiritual situations of the individuals that will be assisted in order to be more effective in helping them through the processes of their moral and social recovery.
- The beneficiary of the service of assistance provided by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should always be motivated to participate, according to their limits, in the process of assistance that is being rendered to them, allowing them to help themselves, which is indispensable to their social promotion.
- The medical assistance provided by the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society, such as medical, dental, or nursing assistance, should be given by a legal professional in those areas.

The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity



G

STUDY MEETING OF THE GOSPEL AT HOME

- The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:
- “To motivate and to guide its participants to implement and maintain the **Study Meeting of the Gospel at Home**, as effective support for the spiritual harmony of the family.”

1. Fundamentals

“What is the most perfect example that God has offered to us, to serve as a guide and model?”

“Jesus.”

Jesus the God-given model of moral perfection toward which we should all strive. Animated by the Divine Spirit, Jesus was the purest being who has ever appeared on Earth; and the doctrine He taught is, accordingly, the purest expression of the Divine Law.”

Allan Kardec (The Spirits’ Book, Question 625)

“Social interaction is necessary to evolution, and family ties are the basis for life in society. This is why social interaction is a natural law. God wants humans, by living together in society, to learn to love each other.”

Allan Kardec (The Spirits’ Book, Question 774)

“When the Gospel penetrates the home, the heart opens up more easily the door to the Divine Master.”

Emmanuel (Jesus no Lar – Automatic Writing Francisco Cândido Xavier)

The Study Meeting of the Gospel at Home is the gathering of the family for the study of the Gospel under the light of Spiritism and their joint prayers.

It is of vital importance for the spiritual balance of the family and the harmony of the domestic atmosphere.

In this meeting, in addition to the study and vibrations carried out together, there is also the opportunity for the Spiritual friends to provide spiritual assistance to the home, and in particular, to each one of its members.

2. Organization

- The entire family should be motivated to participate in the Study Meeting of the Gospel at Home, including the children.
- If other members of the family cannot or do not wish to participate in the study, one person alone can accomplish it, with the certainty that the home, as well as other relatives, will benefit from it.



- This should be a weekly meeting, on a day and hour previously chosen.
- The meeting should have a minimum duration of 30 min., but should not exceed 1 hour. If children are participating, the minimum time should be chosen.
- Punctuality at each meeting is indispensable, as well as the consistency of the meetings.
- The sequenced study of “The Gospel According to Spiritism” is recommended in addition to excerpts from other evangelical works with the active participation of every member of the family.
- Poetry, history, songs or Spiritist narratives can enrich the meeting.
- Manifestations of disincarnate spirits should be avoided.
- A glass of water should be placed for each person present so that they may be magnetized by the Spiritual Benefactors. Whenever necessary, passes may be administered, if there are people present with experience in such work.
- In addition to relatives, neighbors, and friends, visitors that are in the home at the hour of the meeting may also be invited to participate in the study.
- It is advisable, in order to avoid interruptions, to turn the telephone off.
- It is advisable to choose a place in the house that offers privacy, so that inconvenient interferences may be avoided.
- On the day of the Study Meeting of the Gospel at Home, in particular, the domestic atmosphere should be preserved by means of attitudes and thoughts of peace and cordiality, and of uplifting conversations.
- Less worthy conversations or inconvenient attitudes should not be permitted before, during, or after the meeting.

3. Development

- The family will always meet on the day, hour, and place previously chosen.
- Before the beginning of the meeting, the tasks of the study will be distributed, selecting the participants that will be responsible for the prayers and the reading.

3.1. - Initial prayer: Offered by the director or by the one choose by him/her; it should be concise, simple, and objective, asking God and the Superior Plane for blessings of peace and happiness. (2min.)

3.2. - Reading and comments: Read a page from “The Gospel According to Spiritism” and a page from another evangelical work, always in sequence. The recommended books are: “Vineyard of Light”, “Source of Life”, “Way, Truth and Life”, and “Our Daily Bread” by Emmanuel, channeled by the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier.

It is important that everybody actively participate with comments, contributing to enhance the subject and to enrich the lesson. (20 to 50min.)

3.3. - Vibrations: It is the prayer for the home, relatives and friends, sick persons, the obsessed, drug addicts, suicides, for incarnates and disincarnates, and especially for enemies. We should also ask for countries, world peace, and for everyone in need. Finally, vibrate for the



benefit of the participants of the meeting and for the magnetization of the water. (3min.)

- 3.4. - Closing prayer: It should also be simple, clear, and concise, expressing gratitude to God, Jesus, and the Spiritual Friends for the blessings of the study and the lesson, and for the happiness of fraternal coexistence. (2min.)

4. Observations

- Upon consideration of the high objectives, the great spiritual reach of the Study Meeting of the Gospel at Home, and the great benefits it provides to people, their homes, and society, it is advisable that the Group, Center or Spiritist Society motivate its implementation in all homes, by means of campaigns promoting its practice, and by providing guidance for its implementation.
- These campaigns should be promoted through all possible means of communication.
- Properly trained teams can provide assistance and collaboration to these meetings in their initial phase.

The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity



H

ACTIVITIES THAT AIM FOR THE UNION OF SPIRITISTS WITH SPIRITIST INSTITUTIONS AND THE UNIFICATION OF THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:

- To participate in activities that aim to unite Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies by joining forces and sharing experiences aimed at the continuous improvement and strengthening of their activities and the Spiritist Movement in general, while preserving their autonomy and freedom of action.

1. Fundamentals

“Those groups, communicating with one another, visiting one another, and exchanging observations, can, thenceforth, establish the nucleus of a great spiritist family that one day will gather all opinions and will unite every individual in a single feeling: that of fraternity, bringing the seal of Christian charity.”

Allan Kardec

“The need for a superior central directive, a vigilant keeper of the progressive unit and of the general interests of the Doctrine, is so evident that it is already a source of inquietude now visible on the current horizon, not being seen its driver. It is understood that, without the moral authority capable of centralizing the works, the studies, and the observations; of motivating and stimulating zeal; of defending the weak; of sustaining courage to defy hesitation; of helping through advice derived from experience; of clarifying uncertain points; Spiritism would be at risk of walking without direction. Not only is that direction necessary, but it is also needed in order to satisfy conditions of force and stability that would provide the strength to confront the storms.” (...) It is pivotal to “understand very well that we are talking about moral authority in regards to the interpretation and application of Spiritism’s principles, and not of any disciplinary power.”

Allan Kardec - (Posthumous Works - Constitution of Spiritism)

“The entities that compose the International Spiritist Council maintain their autonomy, independence, and freedom of action. The affiliation with the ISC has, as its foundation and objective, solidarity and fraternal union.”

(ISC By-Laws - Art. 9º)

To participate in activities that aim for the union of Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies by joining forces and sharing experiences aimed at the continuous improvement and strengthening of their activities and the Spiritist Movement in general, while preserving their autonomy and freedom of action.



2. Organization

The work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement is organized and structured by the union of Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies, which, while preserving their autonomy and freedom of action, join forces and share experiences, seeking to continuously improve and strengthen their activities and the Spiritist Movement in general.

The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies, by joining together, comprise the Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at local, state, regional, or national levels.

The Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the national level constitute, in turn, the Entity of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the international level: the International Spiritist Council.

3. Development

The work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement is developed by the Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies by:

- Participating, fraternally and voluntarily, in meetings, courses, reunions, and other events, directed at administrators and workers of Spiritist organizations, to refresh and update doctrinal knowledge and administrative procedures aimed at improving and expanding the Spiritist Institutions' activities, and to open up new areas of work and action.
- Imparting information, at meetings and reunions, about its activities, experiences, and accomplishments that may be useful in improving the work being developed by other Spiritist Institutions.
- Applying information, received from other Spiritist Institutions, about their activities, experiences, and accomplishments that may be useful in improving the work being developed by their own Spiritist Institution.
- Assisting other Spiritist Institutions in finding solutions to their problems and difficulties and, whenever necessary, receiving help from them.
- Organizing events with other Institutions for the general public to disseminate the Spiritist Doctrine, while also promoting the creation of new Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies, thus enabling Spiritism to become more widely known and practiced.

4. Observations

4.1– Guidelines for the work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement:

- The work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement derives from the fraternal, voluntary, conscientious, and operational union of Spiritists and Spiritist Institutions according to the Spiritist Doctrine.
- The work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement is characterized by the unconditional offer of assistance without a demand for



compensation, by proposing without imposing results, and by uniting without hindering initiatives, preserving the values and unique characteristics of each individual and institution.

- Spiritist Institutions are not required to implement any programs or supporting materials that may be given to them. It will be up to the Spiritist Institutions to decide whether or not these materials will be utilized, partially or totally, and if so, they reserve the right to adapt them to their particular needs or conveniences.
- All activities provided by Spiritist Federations and those that strive for the unification of the Spiritist Movement should always seek to promote and motivate the methodical, constant, and deepened study of Allan Kardec's works, which constitute the Spiritist Codification, emphasizing the basis upon which the Spiritist Doctrine lies.
- All activities provided by Spiritist Federations and those that strive for the unification of the Spiritist Movement have, as their greater objective, to make the comforting and guiding message of the Spiritist Doctrine available, with simplicity and clarity, and easily accessible to everyone, particularly to the lay person, by means of study, prayer, and work.
- All activities provided by Spiritist Federations and those that strive for the unification of the Spiritist Movement should always preserve the natural right of all its participants to freedom of thought, creation, and action, as recommended by the Spiritist Doctrine. However, each and every activity should always be based on the works of the Spiritist Codification.

4.2– The benefits of the union of Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies in the work of the Federations and of the unification of the Spiritist Movement:

1. It enables Spiritists to get to know each other better and to establish a more fraternal relationship.
2. It propitiates the exchange of experiences and knowledge regarding all the aspects and areas of the Spiritist Movement.
3. It allows the Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies to benefit from the experiences, activities, and accomplishments of other Spiritist Institutions.
4. It provides the Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies the opportunity of collaborating, directly and indirectly, on the development and improvement of other Spiritist Institutions.
5. It makes the Spiritist Movement sound, safe, integrated, and effective.
6. It improves, progressively, all areas of Spiritist activities.



7. It contributes to a better public opinion of the Spiritist Movement by providing an accurate definition of itself to other segments of society, as well as, the legislative powers.
8. It makes the Spiritist Movement a useful and more efficient social resource for humanity's spiritual and moral evolution.
9. It promotes team work within the spiritist ambient by guarding against and eliminating any sense of pride or ego that any individual or group may develop.
10. It ensures the Spiritist Movement's independence and self-sufficiency in all areas of its activities, at all times, and in any circumstance.
11. It safely preserves the Spiritist Doctrine's practice within its basic principles and provides complete assistance in the accomplishment of its objectives.
12. It conscientiously and permanently strengthens the Spiritist Movement so that it may overcome the natural obstacles to the practice, study, and dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine.
13. It harmonizes the Spiritist practice through an increasingly greater attunement with the Superior Spirits in charge of assisting in each individual's personal improvement and, particularly, in that of the Spiritist Movement.

The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity



I

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- The Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies offer the following basic activities:
- “To provide the necessary administrative activities for its normal operation, compatible with its organizational structure and in accordance with the country’s legislation.”

1. **Fundamental**

Allan Kardec inserts, in chapter XXX of *The Mediums’ Book*, the Regulation of Spiritist Society of Paris, founded by him on April 1st, 1858 as a model "to facilitate the formation of Societies for those who want to found them, which will find herein the regulations that are particular to them. Although already simplified, this organization can be even more simplified, if instead of being Societies regularly constituted, they are only intimate meetings that will merely need to adopt regulations of order, precaution and regularity in the works." In addition, in *Posthumous Works* (Constitution of Spiritism), Kardec, upon referring to the by-laws of the Central Commission, remarks": (...) At first, however, a rule, a direction plan, a certain objective, will be necessary. Once the rule is established, one can walk with it safely, without doubts and hesitations."

Thence, having previously defined rules as their basis, the Groups, Centers, or Spiritist Societies should provide the necessary administrative activities for its normal operation, compatible with its organizational structure and in accordance with the country’s legislation.

2. **Organization**

The Group, Center or Spiritist Society should be organized in its own independent way, observing all the complexities of its structure, in a way to better facilitate the objectives of the Spiritist Movement.

3. **Development**

Based on its constituent acts, (by-laws, articles of incorporation or regulations), the Group, Center or Spiritist Society should plan its actions, establish goals for each of its various work areas, and evaluate the results of its programmed activities. In order to do so, it should organize meetings and periodic encounters, not only with its management staff, but also with the people in charge of its various sectors or departments, providing support for a work dynamic compatible with the objectives of the institution.



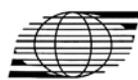
4. Observations

- The direction of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should look for the means of motivating the participants of its public meetings to become involved in the various sectors or departments of the institution, promoting the development of team work for the benefit of the common task.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should have, whenever possible, the appropriate locations and environment for the development of its activities, whether they be of a doctrinal or an administrative nature.
- Any activity developed by the Spiritist Movement should be gratuitous. The economic support of the Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be a result of spontaneous contributions and members' collaborations.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should be careful with its direction in order to avoid that the institution become involved, whether directly or indirectly, in activities that are incompatible and conflict with Spiritism's high interests.
- The Group, Center, or Spiritist Society should preserve its administrative independence. The receiving of donations and contributions, as well as the signature of agreements of any origin should not be subordinated to the acceptance of commitments that are incompatible with the institution's Spiritist character or to impede it from following its normal program of activities.

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The constant study of the Spiritist Doctrine based on Allan Kardec's works and the permanent purpose of practicing its teachings, are indispensable for the correct accomplishment of any spiritist activity.





V

WORK OF THE
FEDERATIONS AND
OF THE
UNIFICATION OF
THE SPIRITIST
MOVEMENT

“Spiritism is a question of depth; to be bound by form would be a folly unworthy of the magnitude of the subject. Therefore, Centers which believe they fully understand true Spiritism should extend a helping hand to others, in fraternity, and so unite in order to combat the common enemies: incredulity and fanaticism.”

Allan Kardec

(Posthumous Works - The Constitution of Spiritism - Item VI)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



**WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND OF UNIFICATION OF
THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT**

What It Is

- The work of the Federations and of unification of the Spiritist Movement serves to strengthen, facilitate, expand, and improve the efforts of the Spiritist Movement in its ultimate goal of promoting the study, dissemination, and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine.
- It derives from the fraternal, voluntary, conscientious, and operational union of Spiritists and Spiritist Institutions through the exchange of information and experiences, mutual help, and joint activities.
- It is fundamental to the strengthening, improvement, and growth of Spiritist Institutions, and for the correction of eventual deviations from proper doctrinal and administrative practices.

What It Does

- It promotes a continuous contact with the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies, thereby promoting their union and integration while placing at their disposal suggestions, expertise, and supporting programs and materials needed for their activities.
- It conducts meetings, courses, fellowship gatherings, and other events directed at administrators and workers of Spiritist organizations to refresh and update doctrinal knowledge and administrative procedures aimed at improving and expanding the Spiritist Institutions' activities, and to open up new areas of action and work.
- It organizes events directed at the general public for the dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine, thus enabling Spiritism to be better known and better practiced.

How It Is Structured

- It is structured through the union of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies which, while preserving their autonomy and freedom of action, join forces and sum up experiences aimed at the continuous improvement and strengthening of their activities and the Spiritist Movement in general.

By joining together, the Spiritist Groups, Centers, or Societies constitute the Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at local, regional, state, or national level.

- The Federations and Entities of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the national level constitute in turn the Entity of Unification of the Spiritist Movement at the international level: the International Spiritist Council.

(From the text "Disseminate Spiritism" approved by the ISC in October/1998)



GUIDELINES FOR THE WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND OF UNIFICATION OF THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

- The work of the Federations and of unification of the Spiritist Movement, as well as that of the union of the Spiritists and the Spiritist Institutions, is based upon the principles of fraternity, solidarity, freedom, and responsibility as prescribed by the Spiritist Doctrine.
- It is characterized by offering assistance without demanding compensation; by helping without creating conditions; by instructing without imposing results; and by uniting without inhibiting initiatives, thereby preserving the values and distinctive characteristics of both individuals and institutions.
- The integration and participation of Spiritist Institutions in this work, which shall always be voluntary and conscientious, are carried out on the basis of equality without subordination, thus respecting and preserving the institutions' independence, autonomy, and freedom of action.
- The programs and supporting materials made available to the Spiritist Institutions are not obligatory. It is left to their own discretion to adopt them or not, partially or in their entirety, or to adapt them to their own needs and conveniences.
- In all activities the methodical, deep, and constant study of the works of Allan Kardec, which constitute the Spiritist Codification, should be always encouraged while underscoring the basis on which the Doctrine is established.
- All work and activities have as their highest objective the placing with simplicity and clarity of the Spiritist Doctrine's consoling and guiding message within the reach and at the service of everyone through study, prayer, and other joint activities.
- Work of federations as well as activities of unification of the Spiritist Movement must always preserve the participants' inherent right to think, create, and act, as professed and praised by the Spiritist Doctrine, with the understanding, however, that each and every activity must be in accord with the works of the Codification by Allan Kardec.



SUGGESTIONS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE ENTITIES AND GROUPS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND OF UNIFICATION OF THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

“The purpose and objectives of ISC are founded upon the Spiritist Doctrine codified by Allan Kardec, and the works, which, by following its guidelines, become complimentary and subsidiary to the Codification.”

(ISC Constitution - art. 4°)

“Any and all programmes and supporting materials offered by the ISC shall not be obligatory. It shall be left to the discretion of the National Organizations the decision to adopt them or not, partially or in their entirety, or to adapt them to their own needs and conveniences.”

(ISC Constitution - art. 6°)

- To project and schedule visits to all spiritist institutions located in the area under its jurisdiction, in order to strengthen the fraternal liaisons and union among all.
- To promote and achieve, periodic, meetings with directors and workers of the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies under its jurisdiction, with the following objectives:
 - ◆ to understand its needs and its realities, those of the doctrinaire character as well as the administrative ones;
 - ◆ to facilitate the exchange of information and of experiences that assist them in the performance and in the improvement of its activities;
 - ◆ to establish tasks and participate in activity that facilitates and sustains the development of its projects.
- To promote in agreement with the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies under its jurisdiction, a schedule of spiritist speakers with good doctrinaire knowledge and good communication skills, to collaborate with those Institutions in their doctrinaire activities.
- To promote and schedule meetings, seminars, courses and encounters designated for the preparation of workers in spiritist activities, in general, with the objective of providing basic knowledge of the Spiritist Doctrine (its origin, its responsibility, its objective and principles) and on the Spiritist Movement (its structure and practice), highlighting:
- the Doctrinaire guidelines contained in Allan Kardec's basic works that specially constitute the Spiritist Codification, which serve as foundation and rule to all spiritist endeavors, particularly those developed by the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies;
- the Guidelines that direct the activities of the Spiritist Institutions and of the work of the Federations and that of Unification within the Spiritist Movement, which include the work of the union of the Spiritists in general, and specially the union of the directors and Spiritist Workers, and the union of the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies.
- To promote and to organize meetings, seminars, courses and encounters designed for the preparation of workers in specific spiritist activities, especially those developed by the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies, such as:



- Study Meetings of the Spiritist Doctrine;
- Meetings to interpret and explain the Gospel according to the Spiritist Doctrine, of Spiritual Healing and Fraternal Assistance through the dialogue.
- Study Meetings for the Practice and Education of Mediumship;
- Spiritist Study Meetings for Children and Youth;
- Work for the Dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine;
- Service of Assistance and Social Spiritist Promotion;
- Study Meetings of the Gospel in the Home;
- Administrative activities.
- To promote and to achieve the dissemination of the Spiritist Book by all possible means compatible with the doctrinaire principles, such as: at exhibitions, at fairs, at newsstands, at bookstores, and libraries.
- To promote and to accomplish projects and works directed toward the dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine through all the compatible vehicles of communication within the doctrinaire principles, such as: radio, television, internet, newspapers, magazines, bulletins, pamphlets and posters.
- To promote and to achieve Fraternal Meetings, Encounters and Congresses that may facilitate the meeting and the union of the Spiritists in the study of the Spiritist Doctrine, of the doctrinaire dissemination, of the exchange of experiences, of knowledge and of mutual cooperation, in working together and in the exercise of the Christian fraternity.
- To promote in the area under its jurisdiction, use of small study groups of Spiritism, where the work of attendance and social spiritist promotion will be developed, either materially or spiritually.
- To provide to the Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies in its jurisdiction, the collaboration and necessary support so that they can develop their activities according to the basic principles of the Spiritist Doctrine, in the most appropriate and efficient way.
- To promote the creation and multiplication of new Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies under its jurisdiction, wherever necessary, relying on the participation of the directors and workers of the existent Institutions who are willing to collaborate in this task, as a result of their growth.



BENEFITS THAT RESULT FROM THE PRACTICE OF THE WORK OF THE FEDERATIONS AND THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE UNIFICATION OF THE SPIRITIST MOVEMENT

*“Ten men sincerely united by a common thought are stronger than a hundred that don't understand each other.”
Allan Kardec (“Posthumous Works” – The Constitution of Spiritism)*

- It helps to maintain, in its practice, the unit of doctrinaire principles that serves as basis and guideline for the study activities, dissemination and practice of the Spiritist Doctrine.
- It assists the Spiritist Workers in becoming acquainted with each other, thus facilitating the exchange of experiences, information, and mutual assistance in a united work effort.
- It allows for the improvement and the growth of the activities of Groups, Centers and Spiritist Societies through the communication, knowledge, trust, collaboration, mutual assistance and support, that is born among the companions of the various Spiritist Institutions.
- It easily affords, the verification of the doctrinaire errors and administrative irregularities that can be occurring in the Spiritist practice, that could harm the work and that requires the necessary correction.
- It strengthens all spiritist activities, in the study, dissemination and practice of the Doctrine, due to the fraternal and operational union and due to the mutual collaboration of the Spiritist Workers involved in the doctrinaire dissemination.
- It demonstrates to all companions, even to those that are at distant or isolated places, that they are neither alone nor abandoned in their task and that the difficulties, problems and experiences they encounter, as well as their solution, are similar to those encountered by companions from other places, other countries or other continents.
- It facilitates, whenever required, the fraternal contact that stimulates the courage; the direction and the clarification that provides the support; and the collaboration and the attendance that provides the assistance, allowing that the work, in general, developed by the Spiritists, as well as from the Groups, the Centers and Spiritist Societies may grow and improve harmoniously, secure and constant.



UNIFICATION

The work for the unification in our ranks is urgent, but not rushed. One assertion seems to contradict the other. But it is not so. It is urgent because it defines the goal that we should aim at; but not rushed because, it is not granted to us to violate anyone's conscience.

Let us preserve the purpose of uniting, approaching, and understanding one another; and, if possible, let us establish at every site where the name of Spiritism has been brought to light, a study group, however small, of the works of Kardec, in the light of the Christ of God.

We, who devotedly engage ourselves in all types of noble endeavors being offered by our principles, cannot ignore clear reasoning to turn our life less somber. Thus, let us compare our redeeming Doctrine to a metropolis with all the demands for comfort, progress, peace, and order. In the city, food, clothes, shelter, and security for all are essential; however, the matter of light cannot be overlooked. Lighting has been a concern of humans since the very first cave dwellings. Originally, light was obtained by fire through friction, followed by the domestic hearth, the torch, flames fueled by resins, the oil lamp, and, in modern times, electricity transformed into glaring radiance.

The Spiritist Doctrine holds its essential aspects in triple configuration. Thus, no one should be restricted in their desire to work and produce. Let those inclined toward the sciences to cultivate them in their dignity; those who devote themselves to philosophy to ennoble its postulates; and those who consecrate themselves to religion to turn divine its aspirations. Yet, above all, it is necessary that the basis of the Spiritist Doctrine remain in everyone and everything so that we do not lose the balance at the base over which the organization is raised.

No reciprocal hostility, nor disregard toward anyone. However, we have the necessity to preserve the spiritist principles, to honor and exalt them, or we will end up as strangers to one another, or frozen in regimentations which will cripple our best yearnings, turning the movement of liberation into a stagnant sect imprisoned in new interpretations and theologies which would place us conveniently at the mercy of the inferior planes and distance us from the Truth.

Let us follow Allan Kardec in our studies, aspirations, activities, and deeds so that our faith does not turn into hypnosis, whereby the power of darkness establishes its influence over the weaker minds, enchaining them to centuries of illusion and suffering.

To liberate the Divine word is to excise the teachings of Christ from all the prisons to which they have been shackled. At present time, without bestowing any privilege on ourselves, only Spiritism retains sufficient moral strength so as not to tie itself to ulterior interests, and to effect the recovery of the Light which flows from the Master's crystal-clear verb, satisfying the thirsty, and guiding the souls.

Let Allan Kardec's work not only be believed or felt, proclaimed or manifested in our convictions, but also be sufficiently lived, suffered, wept over, and put into practice in our own lives. Without this foundation, it is difficult to forge the Christian-Spiritist character, which the troubled world awaits from us through unification.

To teach, but also to put into practice; to believe, but also to study; to counsel, but also to exemplify; to unite, but also to nourish.

We speak of trials and sufferings, yet we have no other ways to assure the victory of truth and love on Earth. No one edifies without love, no one loves without tears.

Only here, in the spirit life, did I come to learn that Christ's cross was a stake which He, the Master, stuck in the ground to lift up the new world. And to demonstrate, for all times, that nothing useful and good can be achieved without sacrifices, He died on the cross. Scorned and defeated, He buried the cross in the ground, thus showing us that this is our pathway – the pathway of one who builds upward, of one who glances the continents from high above.

It is indispensable that Spiritism be maintained exactly as it was conveyed to Allan Kardec by the Divine Messengers, that is to say, without political compromises, without religious



professionalism, without degrading ego, and without burning desires of conquest of fleeting earthly powers.

Respect for all creatures, regard for all authorities, and devotion to the common good, as well as instruction for the people, in every direction, about the truths of the spirit, truths unalterable and eternal.

Nothing which is reminiscent of castes, discriminations, unjustifiable individual prominence, privileges, immunities, and priorities.

May the love of Jesus be upon all, and the truth of Kardec be for all.

In each temple, the strongest should be a shield for the weakest, the most enlightened a light for the least knowledgeable, and the sufferer always the most protected and the most helped, as among those who suffer less be the greatest the one who puts himself at the service of all others, according to the words of the Divine Mentor.

Let us move onward, seeking the inspiration of the Lord. - Bezerra de Menezes

(Message received by F.C. Xavier, in a meeting of the “Comunhão Espírita Cristã,” on April 20, 1963, in Uberaba, Minas Gerais, Brazil)

Reformador, Dec./1975

(Translated by: J. Korngold, M. Levinson & I. Reis)



GRADUAL UNIFICATION, IMMEDIATE UNION, INCESSANT WORK

Spiritists, my brothers and sisters!

As the trumpets of a new day of light announce the arrival of the Era of the Lord, and an era of peace prepares for the new humanity, which at this time is still dominated and crushed by desperation, let us make the journey inside ourselves.

As external values lose their significance impelling us to seek God in our hearts, we are invited through our brothers and sisters to share in the highest responsibility of loving, serving, and carrying on.

Jesus, my friends, is more than a symbol. He is a reality in our existence. He is not only a being that went from the manger to the cross, but rather the example whose life became a Gospel of facts calling upon us.

Because of this, it is necessary to immerse our thoughts in the works of Allan Kardec in order to experience Jesus in its plenitude.

We are invited to the banquet of a better era, the era of the eternal Gospel, and no one can decline this invitation under any circumstance.

There was a time we could claim we were not informed of the truth. Today, however, we know better. And because we know it through personal experience, let us live the Christ of God in our attitudes, allowing the Spiritist light to show its message of enlightenment without ever being hindered by the dense clouds which still characterize human selfishness, resentment, and vanity.

Unification indeed, and union as well.

It is indispensable that we become unified under the Spiritist ideal, but above all, that we unite as brothers and sisters.

Our postulates ought to be lived and made known within a strict line of dignity and nobility. Yet, let our feelings vibrate in unison, reflecting the sentiments of friends who want to help one another, of brothers and sisters who do not allow themselves to advance forward while leaving the rear guard covered with corpses, or the ones who did not have the strength to carry on.

The task of unification is gradual; and whereas the task of uniting is immediate, the work is incessant, because we will never complete the job since we are imperfect servants and perform only the portion that is entrusted to us.

To love, however, is the Commandment our Lord left us and which the Doctrine restored.

Let us unite, let us love one another earnestly, and let us eliminate our doubts, rectify our opinions, difficulties, and our points of view in light of the clear and sublime message of the Doctrine by which Allan Kardec enriches the new era, understanding that we are just simple apprentices. As apprentices, we cannot surpass the master.

Let us join hands and be helpful to one another; let us forget conflicting opinions to remember the concepts of similitude, trusting in time, the great drier of tears, which corrects everything.

We do not call upon you proclaiming inertia, parasitism, or implicit acceptance without discussing or examining the information. We invite you to the true dynamics of love.

Let us remember the words of Jesus:

"And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand," whereas no one can tear a bundle of twigs joined together in a union of forces.

It is for this reason, Spiritists, my brothers and sisters that while the Unification should continue, the Union should rule in our hearts.



We are the sowers of a better time, the cultivators of the new era. The harvest we will reap in the name of Jesus will characterize our work.

Go forward, my brothers and sisters, in search of the dawn of the new era.

Jesus is the ultimate Master, and Allan Kardec the faithful disciple.

Let us be the honorable and noble continuators of His labor of love and His lesson of wisdom.

When the shadows of death subsequently descend upon you and we the discarnate, approach to welcome you, you will be able to say:

“Here we are, Master, recognizing that we are still imperfect servants because we only did what was assigned to us.”

He, however, being magnanimous, just, and good, will say:

“Come to me, children of my Father, enter into the joy of peace.”

Much peace, my friends!

May the Lord bless you. – Bezerra de Menezes

Message received by Divaldo P. Franco, the night of April 20, 1975,
at a public meeting at the Brazilian Spiritist Federation, Brasilia - DF, BRAZIL.

(Reformador Feb./76)

(Translated by: J. Korngold, M. Levinson & I. Reis)





VI

PLAN OF ACTION

FOR THE

CAMPAIGN

*(Approved by the International Spiritist Council in its Ordinary Meeting of October
1998)*

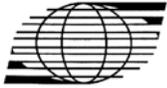
(The texts “Get to Know Spiritism” and “Disseminate Spiritism” of the Campaign of Dissemination of Spiritism, are included in this booklet.)



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL



INTERNACIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

CAMPAIGN OF DISSEMINATION OF SPIRITISM

PLAN OF ACTION

1 - Objective of the Campaign:

* To make the Spiritist Doctrine increasingly better known and better understood by the public in general from everywhere.

2- Public to Whom It Is Destined:

* To individuals of all ages, races, and countries, from all economic, social, and cultural levels who are still unaware of the Spiritist Doctrine.

3 - Means for the Dissemination:

3.1 - Promote the dissemination of the Spiritist Doctrine through all possible ways of communication, such as lectures, conferences, books, posters, pamphlets, videos, radio, TV, newspapers, decals, CD ROMs, Internet, etc.

3.2 - Readiness to attend all individuals who seek the Spiritist Groups, Centers, and Societies in search of enlightenment, orientation, and assistance, in a way increasingly more adequate and efficient, and in agreement with the doctrinal principles.

4 - Promotion of the Campaign:

* This Campaign is sponsored by the International Spiritist Council, with the participation of all its members, as much in the presentation of suggestions and proposals as in its execution.

5 - Stages of the Campaign:

5.1 - Elaboration and Approval of the Basic Texts:

5.1.1 - It is the responsibility of the International Spiritist Council to elaborate and approve a text destined to the public in general, explaining what the Spiritist Doctrine is, its practice, and its characteristics. This text will serve as the basis for the Campaign ("Get to Know Spiritism").

5.1.2 - The documents approved by the ISC are the guidelines for the Campaign. They can have their idiom, layout, and format adapted by the spiritist institutions, in accordance with the public to whom they are destined and the means of communication utilized.



5.1.3 - The Campaign will have its execution coordinated by the ISC Executive Committee, which, for this purpose, can count on an ongoing assistance and support.

5.2 - Execution of the Campaign:

5.2.1 - Initially, the texts and materials approved by the ISC will be put together and distributed by its Executive Committee, which can share the costs with the member organizations, proportionally to the amount requested by them. They could also be put together and distributed by other spiritist institutions.

5.2.2 - The operational costs of the Campaign will therefore be distributed between the ISC, its members, and other institutions interested in participating in this project. Each institution will be responsible only for the cost of the work it carries out.

5.3 - Participation of the Spiritist Institutions:

5.3.1 - Based on the text and materials distributed to the public in general, the ISC member organizations, as well as Publishers, Groups, Centers and other spiritist institutions can:

5.3.1.1- obtain or duplicate this material and disseminate it widely, in public places and establishments, including the Spiritist Institutions themselves distributing them to their visitors;

5.3.1.2 - elaborate under their responsibility, new texts and new materials, adapted to the cultural, economic, and social levels as well as to the age and interest of the public to whom they are intended;

5.3.1.3 - utilize the radio, TV, video, and computer; newspapers, magazines, bulletins, and pamphlets; posters, and decals, adapting the text and the materials of the Campaign, and preparing the dissemination materials as to become adequate to each of these ways of communication;

5.3.1.4 - take advantage of the dates of great importance to the Spiritist Movement, with the objective of intensifying and bringing vigor to the Campaign;

5.3.1.5 - promote a wider dissemination of the Spiritist Codification's basic books, offering a reduction of their prices, whenever possible.

5.3.2 - The ISC underwriting in this Campaign should be applied exclusively to the materials approved by the ISC.

5.3.3 - The Institutions that duplicate and distribute the original ISC materials can print their name on the posters or covers next to the name of the International Spiritist Council, as long as they maintain fidelity to the original text.

6 - Structure and Organizing Support to the Campaign:

6.1 - The International Spiritist Council shall also approve a text destined to the spiritists in general: directors, workers, frequenters



INTERNATIONAL SPIRITIST COUNCIL

and sympathizers, with explanations about the Spiritist Movement; the activities of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, and Societies; and the work and federations and unification of the Spiritist Movement ("Disseminate Spiritism").

This text aims to offer the necessary explanations and orientation to the Spiritist in general, facilitating the process of their preparation, integration, and union in the execution of the Campaign.

6.2 - The Spiritist Groups, Centers, and Societies, due to the possibility of an increase in the number of individuals who will come to them, shall get organized for:

6.2.1 - the implantation, maintenance, or improvement of the programs designated to attend the individuals who go to the spiritist nucleuses in search of enlightenment, guidance, support and assistance, either spiritual, moral, or material;

6.2.2 - the implantation, maintenance, or improvement of programs of methodical and systematic study of the Spiritist Doctrine, as well as programs of study, education, and practice of mediumship in the light of the Spiritist Doctrine;

6.2.3 - the implantation, maintenance, or improvement of programs for the integration of new workers in the doctrinal, assistance, and administrative tasks of the Spiritist Groups, Centers, and Societies.

7 - Final Considerations:

7.1 - All Spiritists: directors, workers, frequenters, and sympathizers, as well as their Institutions, are naturally invited to participate in the Campaign, to employ their efforts in their field of action and within their relationships so enabling the Spiritist Doctrine to become more widely known and better understood by the public in general.

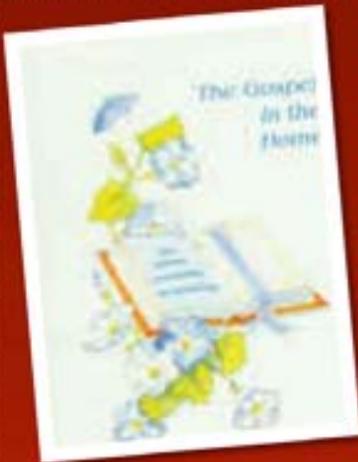
7.2 - The entities that integrate the ISC can promote the conducting of meetings and seminars destined to the enlightenment and preparation of Spiritist workers in order for them to participate in the execution of the Campaign. In this regard, if necessary, they can count on the assistance of the Executive Committee of the ISC.

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✧ GOSPEL AT HOME ✧

ORIENTATION FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE GOSPEL AT HOME



"For where two
or three come
together in my
name, there am
I with them."

Matthew 18:20

◆The practice of the Gospel at home creates the beneficial habit of evangelical study within the home itself, the ultimate purpose of these gatherings being to awaken and strengthen sentiments of fellowship in the family and among our friends.

◆Through these moments of peace, which unite us more closely, we are offered a more tranquil existence.

◆By generating superior thoughts and sentiments among the family members, it offers the possibility of spiritually cleansing the home, thus permitting easy access for the influence of God's messengers throughout the week.

◆After careful thoughts choose a day and time during the week when as many members of the family as possible can be present. This day and time is then kept **RIGOROUSLY** every week, so assuring constant spiritual assistance.

◆Begin with a short spontaneous prayer. Remember that sentiment and sincerity are essentials. Ask for protection for your study, for the presence of the Spiritual Benefactors and help to assimilate the study.

◆It is useful to place a jug water on the table during the study and then distributed this water amongst the participants after the closing prayer

◆Follow the opening prayer with a sequential or random reading from *The Gospel According To Spiritism*, by Allan Kardec. Participants should make brief commentaries about the reading, always seeking the essence of the teachings and applying them to daily life.

◆The meeting will close with a prayer, during which thanks should be offered for the teachings received. Our prayers should include thoughts for our planet, for the varying countries, for hospitals, for particular areas of need that week, any person in need of special help at the moment, world peace, fraternity amongst all men, etc.

◆The meeting should not be suspended because of unexpected visitors, for invitations which may be put off till some other time, or for any futile reason.

◆The meeting should not be less than fifteen minutes and not more than one hour.