

What Via de Cristo is NOT and What it IS

As with many movements and groups that have been in existence for a while, it is probably a good starting place to first tell a little of what Via de Cristo is not:

- It is NOT a place for “problem cases” – The weekend doesn’t “make” Christians out of people who have no faith to start with. It is NOT designed to “convert” non- Christians.
- It is NOT a “cure-all” for personal problems, although the weekend will open many possibilities for dealing with one’s own life through living faith.
- It is NOT a place for recruiting parish workers and it’s NOT a place for organizing volunteers.
- It is NOT there to get people involved with social action programs - although some who make the weekend decide to follow this path.
- It is NOT a “charismatic” or “evangelical” weekend – these are discoveries for other places and times.
- It is NOT a “retreat” and it is NOT just the weekend.
- Via de Cristo IS a Movement. Its purpose is multi-faceted.
- It IS a weekend spent renewing the basic Christian ideas and the Gospel message, through prayer, study, and action.
- It IS a deepening of your faith - The kind that is quiet and real - and the kind that takes you by storm.
- It IS a personal experience with God – both alone and in community.
- It IS a means of making true Christian community possible in neighborhoods, parishes, workplaces and families – where life is lived.
- It IS a presentation of an authentic and natural way of living the Christian life in the real world.

In a nut-shell, the Via de Cristo Movement is a vehicle that is focused to help us, as Christians, to fulfill our Baptismal promises and live out our vocations to the fullest, and enable us to go out and proclaim the Gospel in our everyday life.