We live in a paradoxical time: it has never been easier to talk about God… and never more difficult to discern who does so truthfully. Social media, viral videos, podcasts, "evangelization" accounts… everything seems to point to a spiritual awakening. But amid all this noise, an uncomfortable and deeply necessary question arises:

Does everyone who talks about God truly serve God?

The answer, from the most classical Catholic theology, is clear: **no**. And this is not a modern opinion or a superficial criticism. It is a teaching that runs through Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium.

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1. Christ's warning: not everyone who says "Lord, Lord…"

Christ Himself warned us with a clarity that today feels almost prophetic:

> *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father" (Matthew 7:21)*

These words, found in the Bible, leave no room for comfortable interpretations. It is not enough to talk about God. It is not enough to invoke Him publicly. It is not enough to create religious content.

What truly matters is doing the will of God.

And here emerges the first great criterion of discernment:
the coherence between what is said and how one lives.

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2. An ancient temptation with a new face

Although today we speak of "Catholic influencers," the temptation is not new. Already in the early centuries of Christianity there were false teachers, preachers driven by vanity, and

even heresies spread with great eloquence.

Saint Paul denounced it forcefully:

> *“The time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine…”*
> *(2 Timothy 4:3)*

The difference today is the global and immediate reach. A message can reach millions of people in seconds. And that makes the problem far more delicate.

Before, a bad preacher influenced a community.
Today, they can influence an entire generation.

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3. The danger of the “self” disguised as apostolate

One of the greatest risks today is subtle, yet devastating:
using God as a means for personal prominence.

It is not always obvious. In fact, it often appears under the guise of good:

- “Edifying” content
- Emotional messages
- Carefully crafted aesthetics
- Apparently orthodox discourse

But at its core, there can be a dangerous shift:

God ceases to be the center… and the content creator takes His place.

Here a key spiritual criterion comes into play:

Does this lead me to God… or to the person talking about God?

If the result is emotional dependence on the influencer, disordered admiration, or a cult of personality, there is a serious problem.

True evangelization **disappears behind Christ**.
It does not seek followers for itself, but souls for God.

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4. Classical criteria of discernment (very relevant today)

The Church's spiritual tradition offers very concrete tools for discernment. Applied to the digital context, they are more necessary than ever:

1. **Fidelity to doctrine**

Is what is being said in continuity with the teaching of the Church?
Or does it introduce ambiguous, relativistic, or purely emotional ideas without theological foundation?

2. **Humility**

The true servant of God does not seek applause.
A typical mark of the false one: a constant need for validation.

3. **Spiritual fruits**

Christ said it clearly:

> *"You will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16)*

Does this content produce conversion, sacramental life, prayer…
or merely spiritual entertainment?

4. **Centrality of the sacraments**

Authentic apostolate leads to the Eucharist, to confession, to a life of grace.
If everything remains at the level of "content," something essential is missing.

5. **The Cross and truth**

Where God is, the Cross is present.
If everything is comfortable, emotional, and without demands… depth is likely lacking.

⚖ 5. Between real good and real danger

We must be fair:
social media has also been an instrument of grace.

Many people have rediscovered the faith through digital content. Vocations have arisen. Conversions have begun.

But precisely because of this, the enemy also acts there.

Not every error is malice.
Not every influencer is a false prophet.
But not everything that moves emotions… is truth.

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6. The problem of authority without mission

In the Church, no one sends himself.

Christ sent the Apostles.
The Apostles transmitted the mission.
The Church safeguards that sending.

Today, anyone can open an account and speak in the name of God. But this raises an important theological question:

Does he speak in his own name… or in communion with the Church?

This is not clericalism, but order.
The Catholic faith is not a personal opinion, but a received truth.

❤ 7. What should a Catholic do today?

Here is the most important part: **practical application**.

It is not about distrusting everything, but about learning to discern.

1. Do not consume faith as entertainment

Faith is not just another form of content.
It is not meant to make you “feel good,” but to save you.

2. Return to the sources

- Scripture
- Catechism
- Tradition

Do not replace these with short videos.

3. Prioritize the sacramental life

No influencer can replace confession or the Eucharist.

4. Ask for discernment in prayer

The Holy Spirit does not fail.
Ask for concrete light: “Lord, show me the truth.”

⚠ 5. Beware of spiritual idolatry

Yes, it also exists within the Church.
And today it takes the form of followers, likes, and personal charisma.

8. The true influencer: the hidden saint

While some accumulate followers, others save souls in silence.

A grandmother who prays.
A faithful priest in hiddenness.
A young person striving to live in grace.

They do not appear on social media.
But they sustain the world.

The true Christian "influencer" does not seek visibility.
He seeks fidelity.

Conclusion: less noise, more truth

In the age of content, the soul faces a silent danger:
confusing what moves emotions with what saves.

That is why, more than ever, we must return to the essentials:

- Christ at the center
- Truth without compromise
- Humility as the path

Because in the end, we will not be judged by how many followers we had...
but by how much we loved God and fulfilled His will.

> *"Test everything; hold fast to what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21)*

That is the challenge.
That is the path.