



We live in an age where everything is debated, everything is questioned, and everything is confronted. Social media, forums, family conversations... even faith has, in many cases, become a battlefield. But there is an uncomfortable question every Christian should ask with honesty:

Am I using my faith to love... or to win arguments?

Because there is a very serious warning in Sacred Scripture that echoes through the centuries and speaks directly to our hearts:

“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have charity, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.” (1 Corinthians 13:1)

These words of the Apostle Paul are not just beautiful poetry—they are a spiritual judgment.

1. Knowing a lot... and loving little: the great spiritual danger

In the Catholic tradition, doctrine is essential. It is not optional. Truth matters. Christ Himself said:

“The truth will set you free.” (John 8:32)

But here is the problem:

truth without charity ceases to resemble Christ.

You can know the Catechism, defend the liturgy, correct theological errors... and still be spiritually ill.

Because knowledge is not holiness.



In fact, there is someone who knows doctrine perfectly...

and does not love.

Yes—the devil.

He knows who God is.

He knows who Christ is.

He knows what the Church teaches.

And yet, he hates.

That is why, when a Christian uses faith to humiliate, despise, or crush another, he falls into a very subtle trap:

to be right without having God.

2. Christ did not come to win debates... He came to save souls

Look at the life of Jesus Christ.

Did He defend the truth? Yes.

Did He correct error? Also yes.

Did He denounce sin? Without a doubt.

But He did everything from an authority born of love.

When He encountered sinners, He did not begin with a cold doctrinal speech. He began with a transforming gaze.

- The adulterous woman: He does not crush her—He lifts her up.
- Zacchaeus: He does not accuse him—He invites him.
- Peter: He does not destroy him for his betrayal—He rebuilds him.

Christ does not relativize the truth, but **He never separates truth from love.**

And here lies the key:



Christian truth is not a weapon—it is a medicine.

3. The modern temptation: turning faith into ideology

Today it is easy to fall into a caricature of faith:

- Defending tradition as if it were a political banner
- Correcting others without listening
- Seeking to “be right” rather than to save the other

This happens both inside and outside the Church.

The problem is not loving the truth.

The problem is **loving being right more than loving one’s neighbor.**

When that happens, faith ceases to be a path to holiness and becomes an ideology.

And ideology divides.

Charity, on the other hand, unites.

4. Theology is clear: charity is superior to knowledge

Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches something deeply countercultural:

| *Charity is the form of all virtues.*

What does this mean?

That even faith and theological knowledge must be “formed” by charity in order to be true.

Without love:



- Faith becomes rigid
- Truth becomes harsh
- Correction becomes violence

With love:

- Faith becomes alive
- Truth becomes radiant
- Correction becomes medicine

That is why Saint Paul continues in the same chapter:

“Charity is patient, charity is kind... it does not seek its own interests, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs...”
(1 Corinthians 13:4-5)

This is not optional.
It is the thermometer of your spiritual life.

5. How to know if you are using faith to love or to argue

Ask yourself these questions sincerely:

- Do I correct to help... or to prove I know more?
- Do I listen to others... or just wait for my turn to respond?
- Do I rejoice when others grow... or when they are exposed?
- Do I pray for the people I argue with?

Because here is an uncomfortable truth:

You can defend orthodoxy... and still be losing charity.

And if you lose charity, you lose everything.



6. Practical applications: how to live a faith that loves

Here is a concrete, pastoral, and realistic guide:

1. Before correcting, examine your intention

Do you want to help or to win?

If there is no love, silence can be holier than speaking.

2. Pray for those you think are wrong

It is impossible to deeply hate someone you truly pray for.

3. Learn to speak the truth gently

It is not about lowering the truth, but about elevating the way it is communicated.

4. Accept that not everyone is at your stage

God has different timings for each soul.

5. Remember that you also make mistakes

Humility disarms more than a thousand arguments.

7. The ultimate test: love is the only thing that will remain

At the end of your life, God will not ask you:

- how many arguments you won
- how many errors you corrected
- how many arguments you mastered



He will ask something far more radical:

Did you love?

Because, as Saint Paul says:

*“And now these three remain: faith, hope and charity; but the
greatest of these is charity.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)*

Conclusion: the faith that saves is not the one that shouts... it is the one that loves

The Church today needs well-formed Christians, yes.
But above all, it needs **transformed** Christians.

People who do not use faith as a hammer, but as a light.
Who do not seek to defeat others, but to save them.
Who do not turn truth into a weapon, but into an act of love.

Because you can know everything...

and still have understood nothing.

And you can say little...

but love like Christ.

And then, only then,
your faith will truly be Christian.