



Mission Etiquette Checklist Respectful Evangelism in Poland

Core Mindset

Listen before speaking

Value people's stories.

Serve with humility

Partner with locals rather than leading alone.

Be transparent

Say who you are and why you're here.

Respect Catholic heritage

Honor saints, symbols, and Marian devotion even if you hold different theology.

Leave fruit behind

Hand off seekers quickly to Polish believers.

Cultural Do's

Use greetings

dzień dobry (good day), dziękuję (thank you).

Dress neatly

Modest in villages, smart casual in cities.

Keep punctuality

Poles expect it.

Share meals

Hospitality at the table builds credibility.

Offer bilingual resources

Polish & English.

Acknowledge Pope John Paul II with respect

A national figure.



Cultural Don'ts

Don't mock traditions, saints, or sacred objects.

Don't use confrontational street preaching.

Don't collect phone numbers/photos without consent.

Don't plan events over parish festivals or harvest time.

Don't use jargon (e.g., "sanctification"); use plain language.

Don't compare Poland negatively to Western Europe.



Communication Etiquette

Ask open-ended questions:

Co daje ci nadzieję? — What gives you hope?

Kiedy czułeś/czułaś się najbliżej Boga? — When have you felt closest to God?

Keep testimonies under 2 minutes.

Always ask permission before sharing Scripture:

Czy chciałbyś/chciałabyś przeczytać krótką historię o Jezusie razem?

- Be positive and Christ-centered; never criticize the Catholic Church.

Legal Awareness

1

Evangelism is legal when peaceful and respectful.

2

Article 196: do not insult religious symbols or places of worship.

3

Large public events: permits required via local hosts.

4

Longer service: apply for MOS residence permit under a registered church.

Safeguarding



Obtain consent before photos, especially of minors.

Use moderated WhatsApp/Signal groups for follow-up.

Pair genders wisely in home visits and small groups.

Avoid one-on-one situations with vulnerable individuals.

Quick Team Reminders

Practice role-plays

Before leaving home country.

Measure success

By faithfulness and trust, not numbers.



Define team roles

Facilitator, translator, hospitality, de-escalator.

Commit to daily prayer & humility