

THE PARTICULAR CHARISM SECULAR FRANCISCANS  
BRING TO THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD—

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS OF FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY  
THROUGH THE LENS OF LOVE AND RELATIONSHIP

WHAT DOES THE RULE EXPECT OF US?

*Motion 9 1969 Assisi Congress*

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- A. To live the gospel according to the spirit of St. Francis  
**(Articles 1, 4, 5, 14)** outpouring of the indwelling
  
- B. To be converted continually (conversion)  
**(Articles 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 16)** Secular hallmark
  
- C. To live as sisters and brothers of all people and of all creation; **(Article 13, 18)** BECAUSE we see the fingerprints of God in all that is created, not simply human
  
- D. To live in communion with Christ;  
**(Articles 1, 4, 5, 14)** identify with all Christ's teachings
  
- E. To follow the poor and crucified Christ;  
**(Article 10)** choice to relinquish glory to serve & save
  
- F. To share in the life and mission of the Church;  
**(Article 6)** we are the church—positive aspect
  
- G. To share in the love of the Father;  
**(Articles 4, 12)** The purpose of the incarnation—to make us one
  
- H. To be instruments of peace; **(Article 19)** driving force of St. Francis' life – with others – with creation (canticle of the creatures) – willing to be a martyr (Sultan Malek el Kamile)

- I. To have a life of prayer that is personal, communal and liturgical; **(Article 8)** Liturgy of Hours, Eucharist,
- J. To live in joy; **(Article 19(2))** Story of Perfect Joy
- K. To have a spirituality of a secular nature  
**(Articles 3, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14)** not 2<sup>nd</sup> best – equal dignity – marketplace, family, work, secular realm
- L. To be pilgrims on the way toward the Father  
**(Article 11(2))** relates to virtue of detachment – this is not our final resting place – home is in God
- M. To participate in the apostolate of the laity;  
**(Articles 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24 (youth))**
- N. To be at the service of the less fortunate;  
**(Articles 13, 14, 15)** Francis serves the lepers – Why? Because Jesus served the less fortunate
- O. To be loyal to the church in an attitude of dialogue and collaboration with her ministers;  
**(Article 6(2))** flip side of #6- relates to Francis' love of priests
- P. To be open to the action of the Holy Spirit;  
**(Articles 1, 4(2))** Francis calls the Holy Spirit the Minister General of the Order—the one in charge
- Q. To live in simplicity, humility and minority.  
**(Article 11(1))** basic virtues but WHY? – because they are the character of Jesus