



# The Cursillo® Movement

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## **Operational Structures of Cursillo School of Leaders and Secretariat**

*Source: Presentation by Marisela Rodriguez-Garcia (Diocese of Rockford) at National Cursillo Encounter, Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York - July 26, 2013.*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

¡Good afternoon brothers & sisters in Christ! (brief spontaneous witness of my Diocesan experience as SOL & Secretariat after living a Cursillo de Cursillos will be used as personal introduction)

I would like to begin this talk, with some words from our Lord Jesus Christ, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, in teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 25:19-20)

Why? The answer is simple. That’s what school is for. To be continually preparing ourselves to respond to God’s commandment. I would like to start out explaining “WHY” we need the school from the gospel’s point of view.

- GO ; Go!; using our mobile square meter as our vehicle
- MAKE; put into action the love that God gives us: towards each other.
- TO ALL THE NATIONS: meaning to all of our environments
- BECOME MY DISCIPLES; we should make friends and make them friends with Christ.
- OBSERVE is to see, judge and act.
- TO DO what Christ has commanded us

After this talk, let us remember and reflect on: Do we put into action WHAT CHRIST HAS COMMANDED US in our Schools and Secretariats?

This verse from the Sacred Scriptures summarizes the purpose of the Cursillo Movement and specifically its organizational structures that we call School of Leaders & Secretariat.

Our schools should be groups of service, groups of men and women who dedicate themselves to the mission of sharing Love and Charity in Understanding.

Before going into details about ‘WHAT IT IS FOR’; the School of Leaders and Secretariat, I would like to start out with “WHY” we should LIVE the School like Christian Leaders, who have lived a Cursillo and have heard the call to go the “extra mile” at the service of Christ within the movement.

## WHY

The first thing we should ask and know is WHY does the church exist? The church exists because it brings new life to Humanity; “The church exists to evangelize, and evangelization to the church is to bring the Good News to all of humanity and with its influence transform from within the same humanity.” (Evangelii Nuntiandi 18)

It is interesting to see the union between the ideologies of the founders of the Movement and “the Why” the Church exists, and in listening to the key words or phrases “from within” and then hear “insides” to explain the mission of the Movement and the School, because the Cursillo Movement (MCC) as Fundamental Ideas says, it is a movement of the Church and so it has the same mission as the Church, to evangelize. “The School plays an integral part in the continuation and development of the MCC. The MCC was born in the bosom of the School, which was from the leaders who had the desire and impulse to perfect themselves, as such it is because, previous to Cursillo, that these “insides” were conceived (was in gestation), took life from and preserved from it and became a movement of the Church” (IF #531). I would like to describe in greater detail the definitions of the key words from the article of Fundamental Ideas from which I have just read about the School.

- The first key Word is **Bosom** which the dictionary defines as: one thing that brings under protection another, giving it help and comfort, Breast of a woman, the interior or inside of something.
- “**Insides**” is defined in Spanish as the conjunction of organs within the interior of the cavity of a human being or animal, the most important part or central part of something, the set of feelings that determine a person’s conduct or the conduct of each organ within the chest cavity or uterus.
- **Gestation:** Develop to conceive & develop an idea, a project or feeling, to have and feed a fetus within your insides until the moment of birth, to develop or create ideas, individualistic or collective feelings.

Let us think that the School is a Mother, where her child, whom she carries in her womb, depends on her for nutrition, growth, development, and protection until it is born. The mother goes through many sacrifices, she takes care of herself, so that she can take care of the new life growing within her, so that as she is healthy and strong so then with the baby be healthy and strong. From before the baby is born, the mother already loves him and is already taking care of him, so that he might be fruitful in life. If we think about this the first nine months of gestation are the most important months of our lives, because without those months we would not be here today. Afterwards, when the child is born, some women nurse; others give formula but regardless; the child still depends on the mother to keep itself nourished and to grow. Maybe when we are a more independent as toddlers and learn to crawl or walk do we recognize what “we can eat” and can actually put it in our mouths, but not everything is good for us or good for eating. Likewise, the School is the “womb” of the Cursillo Movement. We all want to be with our mother to feel her love, eat her meals, to get advice, to be guided. How many times do we try to make a favorite recipe, of our mother’s? But it just doesn’t come out the same? How many times has our mother given us advice and we don’t take it or don’t even bother listening, and the decisions we made because we didn’t listen turn out to not be the best?

Let's start off with an example; not from School, but as individuals; if we think that the members of the Secretariat, are formed in (within the bosom) the School; how much more important would it be that the Secretariats receive their orientation or guidance from the School... when you don't take your mother's advice into account, what happens? Now, if the Secretariat, like sons and daughters of the School don't visit her nor accompany her or leave the plate served on the table, what happens?

The School is and will always be an essential piece for the continuation and development of the Cursillo Movement. In other words, if there is no School, there are no Cursillos, there is no Secretariat. There could be any other retreat or encounter, but it should not to be called "Cursillo". There may be a group of "politicians" who can gather together for a good debate or good people who get together to pray but that is not a Secretariat.

The School is the appropriate environment where the Charism of the Movement can be embraced, studied and promoted; in order to live and preserve its method, essence and purpose. It is the climate of Group Reunion of leaders where it is appropriate to help each other discover our gifts and talents, identify where to put them to work and assume the responsibility to be a leader in the church, in the Movement and in the environments.

In the book "The How and the Why" (El Como y El Porque), it is clearly explained to us that the origins of the Cursillo Movement are not the children of improvisation, nor of the "perhaps"; nor is its ideology to be attributed to an "illumination" or revelation, nor should it be considered as an invention; instead it is in effect a result of a long process of maturation and fruit of a tenacious search which was passionate and constant. If we are to understand that this is how the origin of the ideology of the movement came about, then we will understand, that in effect, without a school...the movement would not have been born; although this was crystalized by the Grace of God.

In order to really define "WHAT THE SCHOOL IS FOR and WHAT IT IS NOT FOR", we will look at this in parts.

### **FIRST PART:**

If we understand the WHY, we will then logically understand the FOR of the School.

If we understand that Cursillo is meant to provoke the "hunger" for God, then the School of Leaders helps us to "feed". The school helps the Leaders to find that food which is necessary to walk that extra mile for Christ.

- **It is so that the SPIRIT of Cursillo has an organizational structure**, because its development and growth in the world; of that spirit; REQUIRES the SERVICE of some organisms that will occupy themselves as the SAFEGUARD of its essence and purpose. With this in mind, we can say that the School of Leaders is the vehicle of service to make this happen.
- **It is for SERVICE**, which means having an intimate connection and link with the Secretariat; simplifying, facilitating and making possible the way of life that is fundamental for a Christian in any type of environment in which we live and unfold ourselves.

- **The School is meant to be LIVED**, in other words, the talks and sacraments are to be LIVED, LIVING in communion with our brothers & sisters; the Church. It helps us to live life in a much “easier” way (but doesn’t necessarily mean that life will be easy)
- **It is meant to SERVE**; as St Augustine said: “ It is in forgetting oneself that one is found” IT IS SERVING OTHERS, THAT WE SERVE GOD, AND IN SERVING GOD, WE ARE SERVING OURSELVES, BECAUSE THAT IS THE FRUIT OF THE LOVE WITH WHICH WE SERVE.
- **It is for LOVING**; as Mother Teresa once said, “I have found the perfect paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love.” If it hurts, it is usually a good sign. If we serve with Hope, Surrender and a true Spirit of Charity; there is probably sacrifice involved; and sacrifice usually hurts. If it hurts, then more than likely there are fruits, those fruits will remain; perhaps they will imitate us and even surpass our example. If this happens, then most definitely CHRIST is the source.
  - **It is for LEADERS who THINK with the Mind of Christ and the Mind of the Church.** It is for the chosen; not for the prepared. “God does not call the prepared; instead he prepares his chosen” as well as for **those who see themselves just as Eduardo Bonnin saw himself, as a “Christian Apprentice”**
- **The School is meant to help us SEE:**
  - **HOW** we are
  - **WHAT** we are
  - **HOW** we are
- **It is for those who see the School as a walking path towards God**
- **It is to continue the three encounters that we each lived in a very personal way during the 3-days and to help us keep re-encountering ourselves with:**
  - **Oneself**
  - **With Christ**
  - **With Others**
- **It is to reinforce the mentality and the one common purpose of the Church; the Kingdom of God**

“It is the contact with the “best” that illuminates, encourages and realizes the best type of restlessness with the best methods. It is the place where its attendees will vibrate to the rhythm of one common spirit and one same standard, where the apostolic is spontaneous; it is not the act of “apostalizing”, it is coexisted; and it is where all truth is opportune, because all desire it and live it.” (Structure of the Ideas)

When we speak about the School of Leaders, without knowing the Cursillo in Christianity movement, we could tend to have mistaken concepts about it or identify it as a center for education or formation of leaders to then make them rollistas. It is not a Cursillo factory. In fact, it is simply an operational structure & component, that with the Secretariat, the Cursillo Movement delegates its functions in order to reach its purpose.

## **SECOND PART:**

### **II. What is it?**

The School is a “group of Christians that, united by and in a climate of Group Reunion, seek to be more centered, more committed, more conjoined, to accelerate and bring to life the

fundamentals of being a Christian in oneself, in the Cursillo Movement and in their environments where they move about”. In other words, Christian people who are united for one common purpose, with one same mentality; the mentality of Christ, and where they can make the Leaders Prayer come to life; “So that all our spirits united in a common purpose will have one single spirit, yours Jesus”

**1. It is above all a group.** It is something that IS and exists, before, during and after its sessions (meetings). It is an ACTION inside and outside the “school”. It is above all, Christianity in Action. Having this present and being conscious of it; knowing that the School is not simply a place, but the School in the Christian concept is something that “IS” and “IS LIVED”; but yet without this group of leaders, there is no school. The school is a Body of Leaders; where each of its members has a function, which Christ would like to be realized within that body; without us forgetting that Christ IS the head of the body. We should remember that each one of us is a “mobile school”; being sometimes the only Gospel that others will ever read in their entire lives. It is not a school of the world, where one is either the student or the teacher, and when we walk out, we assume a different role. This is a School that “IS” WHEREVER WE GO (we take it with).

## **2. United in and by a climate of Group Reunion**

We are specifically speaking of unity and communion made possible by a climate of dialogue, where all can and have something to teach and learn, to ask and give opinion. It has a climate of sincerity, trust, authenticity, freedom, equality (where there rights and responsibilities), pluralism (of positions and vocations), of unity within the diversity and humility; both individual and as a community. Therefore; it is an authentic school if there is authentic personal FREEDOM. The School provides and proclaims TRUTH, and it is a PERSONAL DECISION of each of its members to LISTEN, DISCERN and ACT upon what is STUDIED there.

## **3. They seek to, each day, be more: centered, committed and conjoined.**

- **Centered:** to make what is fundamental of being a Christian the center or anchor of their lives...And of the mentality of Cursillo, the center or anchor of their actions as leaders in the Movement. CENTERED in CHRIST, living the Gospel; where the only decision; without question or debate is, to do what God as of us; guided by the Holy Spirit; all together. As Father Frank Salmani said in Whom shall I send?, “we speak of unity in the Church, unity amongst Christians, but the real unity of the Church should not be organized; instead it should be exercised. It is more important “to be” Church, than to be “a” Church.”
- **Committed:** “Com-mit-ted” in other words, be in with or in favor of someone or something; in other words, SURRENDERED; not just volunteers of the moment or of the occasion at hand. In Christian language it is “to be in with Christ” and in favor of His Kingdom here on earth. He, who is not centered in Christ, cannot be committed or surrendered to Him!
- **Conjoined:** which supposes joined or linked together. KNOW each other, UNDERSTAND each other, are COMMITTED to each other and are COORDINATED with each other.

This should be in such a way that the School, **as a Group**, is not an inventory of Leaders or random snipers that can be dispersed. And, as a Reunion, they are not a recollection of divisions

under one roof; instead all are united in one Lord, one common mentality and with the same purpose.

### **The School of Leaders should be:**

- **One community in Service:** where all act as the Holy Trinity family; “the perfect image of community that functions as a body. There is no jealousy in the Holy Trinity or competition. Each person knows his own function within the Holy Trinity. The three persons of the Trinity work united as one.” (Whom Shall I send?)
- **A nucleus of Authentic Christians;** NOT people who simply do “Christian stuff”  
It is a Community of Christians UNITED by a Climate of Group Reunion; who are committed and INTEGRATES....IN ORDER TO accelerate the living experience of the fundamentals of being a Christian

## **PART THREE**

### **III. The Purpose of the School What is the school for?**

The School is to accelerate and live the fundamentals of being a Christian: IN ONESELF --- IN THE MOVEMENT --- IN THE ENVIRONMENTS.

1. IN ONESELF: giving them the criterion & judgment; filling their minds with ideas – spirit, filling their hearts with fire, to make them happen.

2. In the Movement: Probing and “impulsing” the restlessness. Pulsing (taking the pulse) or impulsing the groups and their reunions, Preparing and perfecting the Ultreya: the School is to the Ultreya, the same as the team of leaders is to the Cursillo, Accelerating and perfecting the conversion of those people who are integrated into the Ultreya. Detecting and promoting leaders for the movement. Identifying who has most holiness: who are the most committed, those who are most restless, and those who have most capacity of making friends.

3. In the Environments: Informing and giving Christian form to the leaders of the environments (those who are the vertebrae), through the study that solidifies our faith, forms our life and gives efficacy to our apostolate.

To establish, help to sustain and STIMULATE all of the group reunions, to “perfectionize” our Ultreyas; being better Christian leaders, growing in holiness, training more leaders in their early steps; specifically those who are new Cursillistas in Motion; accompanying the new Cursillistas by example; showing them that IT IS POSSIBLE to JOINTLY LIVE; that which we live through our floating groups and witness. Take people through Precursillo toward Postcursillo via the three days of Cursillo.

In summary, the purpose of the School is no different to that which is the purpose of the Church. We do not go to School to receive formation in anything that is not CHRISTCENTRIC, since the school is where men and women seek the tools with which to best imitate the Teacher (schools for holiness); giving witness to create NEW

MESSENGERS OF WITNESS and TO BE WITNESS; which means to possess the spirit of missionary of Christ.

#### **IV. School Assignments: What can we expect from the leaders?**

“You can expect what you are able to expect from each leader” (How to Program a School)

##### A. Holiness:

1. The seeking authentic orientation (sincere), continuously (decisively), and progressively (more and more each day), of our entire life at the light of the Gospel and in vital union with Christ.

##### B. Christian Message:

1. Knowledge of the Word of God and of the story of Salvation.
2. Knowledge of the expectations of the Word of God for the Church, the world today, as specified in the Conciliar documents, Pontifical documents and Episcopal Pastoral Orientations, etc.
3. So that the Cursillo Movement, today and here, is beating in unison (in accordance to) the Church of Today.

##### C. Mentality of the Cursillo Movement

D. The technique of its strategy in the Precursillo, Cursillo and Postcursillo.

#### **V. Structure of the School**

A. It should be in conformity with the objective that is intended to arrive to as explained throughout this talk.

B. In conformity with the needs, possibilities and level of development (maturity) of the Movement in each place. Therefore, it cannot be the same in all places, nor can its structure be the same in the years to come. For all of these reasons, we cannot give the talk about Mentality of the School as a concrete structure, because it is possible to obtain the objective in many ways.

#### **VI. How it is implemented:**

A. **Who can attend:** those who want to, because they have hope; they can, because they have surrendered to God’s call and know their value; because they practice charity of understanding.

B. **Who should attend:** priests and laity (men & women) who are anchors because of their efficacy

Let us remember, One is not a leader because one is in School. One is in School because one is a leader.

1. **Able:** due to their Christian personality; with attitude of: “He must increase; I must decrease” (John 3:30)

2. **Capacity of awe:** That they have the ability to see the ordinary things, with renewed eyes each time.

3. **Holy and Real “afraidness” (fear) of the Cursillo:** Knowing that our life could well be beneath the truth which we proclaim.

## **VII. Dangers:**

A. That the Leaders in the Environments would want to be Cursillo Leaders (because it is much easier)

B. That those who are NOT leaders in the environments, become complacent with being Cursillo Leaders (because all can see and it is appreciated)

C. And, if this happens, we won't have either of the two; even if we receive the “label”

In other words, to be one person at home and another in the Cursillo movement, yet another at work...to be a chameleon that changes color depending on their habitat of the moment, so that others will not notice. To be so different in one environment versus another that others will hardly recognize you when they run into you in another place, because they don't know your true reality. We should not be Cursillistas of changing colors, rather Cursillistas of brilliant colors!

To conclude WHAT THE SCHOOL IS, I would like to leave you with one last analogy:

Let us think that the School is a group of diamonds in the rough. There will be diamonds that will shine more than others; some will maintain their organic form; through which the brilliance will escape through the pores and rigid form. It will be precisely because of that brilliance that escapes from their organic form, that others will be drawn to them. For some diamonds, their attraction will be precisely the dimension of their brilliance; caused by the form in which they have been cleaved or polishes, that other will seek them out and that is how they will serve the Movement; others will serve precisely because of their multi-dimensional shine. However, in the end, all of the diamonds will shine best due to the brilliance they reflect TOGETHER. Let's think that the school is full of diamonds that will help each other shine; who will rub off on each other; and that is how they will gain their brilliance. What is important is not just that one diamond shines on its own, but that together they help each other shine and reflect the love of God to the others. The “rubbing against each other” is actually a SERVICE done for one another.

It is not mere coincidence that the Secretariats are drawn from the School....

## **SECRETARIATS**

If we understand that ONE IS PART OF THE SCHOOL BECAUSE ONE IS A LEADER; NOT TO BECOME A LEADER; then it is logical to understand that our Secretariats are reflection of our School of Leaders and of our Movement, because a Movement is only as good as are its leaders, and the best leaders are those who are disciples and followers who are formed by THE TEACHER; Jesus Christ.

## **I. Definition**

A. **It is a Special Group Reunion** that is formed by clergy and laity; men and women; whom the Hierarchy has sent forward as part of the apostolic plan and its implementation, for the channeling and development of the Cursillo Movement. Each member of the Secretariat is a member of the Body; with different functions, that are all essential to reach the finality of the Movement.

B. **The emphasis should not be placed on the Reunion, but on the Group itself.** Those who form part of the Secretariat should have the capacity of transforming themselves quickly into a group of Christian Community. It is essential those who integrate the Secretariat ARE AUTHENTIC FRIENDS; that they are A BODY OF LEADERS. And just as in the Group Reunion, there is not one designated leader; but instead, it just so happens that they are a Group of Friends who all happen to be leaders.

## **II. Characteristics of its Members**

A. All Secretariats must be integrated by Leaders who:

1. **That because they have good judgment**, they are already guiding; does not opt for the shortcut or easy way; but instead opts for the correct way; even if it might take longer to reach the goal or might meet more obstacles, but in the end drives all towards the right way and destination.

2. **That because they have spirit, they are motivating**; because they allow themselves to be guided by the spirit of God through PIETY, and they do it with the joy of being Christian

3. **That because they have surrendered to God in service to the Movement**, from their group reunions or from their Ultreyas or from the School of Leaders. Because by their example, they show how they can adjust their life to Christ, the Church and to the Movement; instead of being a cafeteria Christian who adjusts their Christianity to the exact measure of their excuses. They are not a volunteer Christian; they are a Christian who has surrendered to the will of the Lord.

B. **One does not guide or impulse the Movement just because one belongs to the Secretariat**, but because they impulse and orient at the measure of the individuals who integrate the Secretariat; how they make judgment based on spirit and surrender.

**Let us briefly review THE HOW:**

## **III. Designation of the Diocesan Secretariat, how it is Organized and its Functions**

- The Secretariat is designated or at least approved by the Bishop of a Diocese, but it is essential that they all come from (have been in gestation of the School) the School of Leaders, through which they have been nominated because of their LOVE & SURRENDER to the Movement and the Church. There is no room for “clickish” friendships, but it is important to clarify that it will defeat its purpose if those who are approved by the Hierarchy are not people who have the respect nor the admiration of the community, because it will make it very difficult for them to influence those leaders who are “vertebrae”, and only the weak leaders will follow them in form of “pseudo-obedience”; this then will open the door to a Secretariat who becomes a “control tower”,

who must resort to imposed authority; instead of the authority that is simply exercised due to their judgment; spirit and service; it becomes a “click of friends” for whom what becomes more important are “their agreements” or “their decisions”, without regard to the consensus or advice of the members School of Leaders. These members of the Secretariat should be renewed every 2-3 years and the organization should be such to that of the needs, possibilities and circumstances of every place and time. It is a Group of Service, just as Fundamental Ideas tells us: its functions can be compared to those of the traffic control police officer; but each driver chooses their vehicle.

- It is to this Service Group that it corresponds to conserve and invigorate THE MENTALITY, FINALITY AND BASIC NUCLEUS OF THE METHODOLOGY that defines the Cursillo Movement as such; that is why it is ESSENTIAL that those who integrate the Secretariat are truly LIVING AND BELIEVE its mentality, its finality and its strategy. One cannot be a Cursillista like the Catholic that says: “I am catholic, but I don’t believe in all that the Catholic Church stands for, I am Cursillista, but I don’t believe we have to follow its method.” Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, “Frequently we preach a gospel that we don’t live, and this is the reason why the people of the world don’t believe us!” Nobody is going to neither believe nor follow anyone that does not believe what they preach!

- Its members should BE FRIENDS with Pastoral attitude and true sense of Church; with UNIVERSAL mind. One that truly lives his or her Christian Catholicism; with EUCHARISTIC SENSE, and precisely because of this they will respect the Hierarchy of the Church, admire them and desire FRIENDSHIP with them.

- They should be people who are CHRISTIAN, CATHOLIC, And APOSTOLIC and CURSILLISTAS for the same reason that they live the three phases of the Method: Precursillo – Cursillo and Postcursillo...they live in constant attitude of fishers of men and women during their Postcursillo by living the talks of the 3-days of Cursillo. This is precisely how they will be able to impulse the Movement from the Secretariat.

- They are the ones who act as the safeguards for the correct functioning of the School of Leaders, always striving that it fulfills its purpose; this is precisely why only the leaders that have been nurtured by the School of Leaders are who should be nominated to the service of the Secretariat. It is only the members of the Secretariat who CONTINUOUSLY form part of the School, in a committed and surrendered manner that have the authority to safeguard it. It is important to know that this implies that just because one is a member of the Secretariat, it doesn’t mean that they are excused from attending the School or to do so in a “part time” manner. Let us remember once again, the Leaders’ Prayer; it could very well summarize this entire talk.

#### **IV. In Summary:**

The Secretariat should do all that is necessary in order that the Movement may be ALL THAT and ONLY THAT it should be. To accomplish this, the principle of SUBSIDIARITY should be followed:

Language of the Church:

**The Principle of Subsidiarity:** a principle of social doctrine that all social bodies exist for the sake of the individual, so that what individuals are able to do, society should not take over, and what small societies can do, larger societies should not take over. This is

one of the most commonly repeated principles and proper to the teachings of the Catholic Church, and has been considered one of the first encyclicals of social teaching topics *Rerum novarum* {1} and Social Doctrine of the Church.

In Cursillo language this means: “whatever the School can do, should not be done by the Secretariat, because the School is always more capable than the Secretariat and all of its members, when it pertains to people, that (actively) participate in the School, and they too (the members of the secretariat) have also been drawn from the School of Leaders”

Let me please finish with one final example. Many years ago, when I started my career in sales, I read some books that changed my mindset as a sales person. Two of them were by the same author; Stephen Covey (First Things First & The Seven Habits of Highly effective People); more specifically the 6th Habit; SYNERGY.

SYNERGY: comes from the Greek word “synergia”, meaning joint work and cooperative action. Synergy is when the result is greater than the sum of the parts. Synergy is created when things work in concert together to create an outcome that is in some way of more value than the total of what the individual inputs is.

The Habit of Synergy: The habit of synergy is about how people work together to solve problems and to cooperate to accomplish the mission of the enterprise. Effective organizations have many different business areas with different specialized job functions and skill sets, but they work together in ways that complement each other and optimize the result.

- The Cursillo movement, through its structures of School of Leaders and Secretariat, makes everything available to all, but each one has the personal freedom to choose if together with the rest they want to be living witness of “Christ and I, overwhelming majority!”

- The MCC has the tools for study made available through our Secretariats and Schools of Leaders; which jointly take the pulse for the needs and study necessary in order for each leader to have the knowledge in order to fulfill their function within the whole body.

- Those Schools of Leaders and Secretariats, which are true SERVANT LEADERS, will be on the cutting edge and at the pulse of the Movement, in such a way that they will be able to measure the needs within themselves, so that they can seek the study tools necessary to fulfill their functions as Leaders of the Movement.

- As leaders who participate in the School, we SHOULD SERVE TOGETHER WITH THE SAME PURPOSE IN COMMON, because in the end; “By their fruits you will know them” (Mt; 7:16)

- Just as the conductor of an Orchestra; so should be the Secretariat. If the Conductor does not know anything about music or musical note; he will not know how to conduct the orchestra. The conductor knows how to play an instrument, but it is NOT he who will play the instruments. In the same way that the company executive (in Cursillo that would be the Secretariat) knows how to run a business, he does not do the work that corresponds to his managers (in Cursillo that would be the School of Leaders), but he knows how to motivate, guide and facilitate to the managers the vision and mission of the company. In the same manner, the Secretariat guides and orients, knows the Essence & Finality; as well as the method of: Precursillo, Cursillo and Postcursillo (who are also the committees formed in the School), but does NOT do the function that pertains to those

committees or teams; instead it simply gives direction and guides, so that the mission of evangelization of the Church is accomplished.

Now, I would like to make a very important clarification...in no way, shape or form, am I implying that the Movement nor its Operational Structures should be managed as a corporation or company, what I am saying is this is just an example of how even in the world, there are Christians who utilize this concept, that we call the “The Body of Leaders” in their business structures; but they just happen to call it something different and it too works for them.

Brothers and Sisters, in order to be faithful to Christ, we must be faithful to our Mother, the Church and if we truly believe that the Cursillo Movement is the instrument necessary to carry out the evangelizing mission of “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations”, let us love the mother that the Cursillo movement makes available to us, let us be loving Children, with hope, surrender to Christ, and charitable with our time, just as the Leaders Prayer says: “My God, give us a spirit of self-sacrifice so that we might offer everything for your cause, Our time, our abilities, our health and even our lives, if necessary.” In School we will be able to mature and grow as the elder children that give living example of the Love of God; by loving each other as brothers and sisters of one same family, so that it can be said, “*see how much they love one another*”. And as Pope Paul VI said in *Evangelii Nuntiandi* 21: “*Above all the Gospel must be proclaimed by witness*” or most recently as Pope Francis said in one of his tweets: “*Christ’s love and friendship are no illusion. On the Cross Jesus showed how real they are.*” Let us be leaders who LIVE THE JOY OF BEING A CHRISTIAN BECAUSE WE MAKE THE LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP OF CHRIST A REALITY!

DE COLORES!