

THIS IS THE WAY

By Eduardo Bonnín

This is the way to conduct the Three Day Cursillo weekend today. This is the way through which, by the grace of God and the prayers of the brothers and sisters it has been possible to achieve that a great many people over the years have found Christ and decided to follow Him.

I do not know how the Cursillo weekend will be conducted in the future.

We started in a place where there was no electricity, and today we hand out the list of those attending the Cursillo printed by computer.

The only thing I know is that if Cursillo is to remain faithful to the purpose for which it was intended and for which it was prayed and for which we have been grateful, it should not lower its target, and every Cursillo weekend should offer those present as lively, simple, clear and true experience of the Christ of the Gospel as best as possible. He, who through His resurrection and His Grace is alive, active, normal and close to each person.

This requires and calls for a personal encounter between Christ and each individual person.

Obviously, the evil of the world is the evil of the human person, and what the person needs most is to find himself and then to be able to grasp with joy, and even perplexity, the invitation that Christ gives to him, so that by being connected to Him and through that same Grace, he will understand the joy and pleasure that results from spreading it to others.

By its very nature, Cursillo has to go deep down into the depths of the person, into his innermost and intimate self, not merely into the specific circumstances surrounding him: whether married or single, practicing or indifferent etc. There has to be nothing that might deflect him from the target at which he aims. The encounter has to be between Christ and the person, face to face, one-on-one, and everything at the weekend Cursillo has to be focused on that one-on-one encounter. The unavoidable reality of magnetism or attraction between the sexes, or the determining presence of a familiar person – such as professional, marital, or family bonds, makes this one-on-one encounter impossible. The reaction has to be personal, radical and authentic.

There should be nothing that prevents or hinders that radicalism, perplexity and enthusiasm, which occurs in the person when he truly and earnestly BELIEVES that Christ loves him. Since at the weekend Cursillo a new dimension of faith is discovered, much deeper than the normal one, things are different when the person is being observed by someone who is watching, awaiting his reaction. For this reason, a Cursillo weekend should not be mixed; nor is it in any way appropriate that father and son, mother and daughter, two brothers or sisters, employers and employees, or a married couple go to the same Cursillo weekend together. If men and women go together to a weekend, no one will behave as they would if they went separately. Christ is looking for the person, not for what surrounds him.

Cursillo makes no assumptions.

The person, who really wants to be a Christian, realizes the distance they have to go to actually become a true Christian. They become aware of the fact that they have to try and lessen that distance at every moment of their life. The conscious Christian life lead by the person who has awakened to the possibility of longing to become a true Christian, impels them to thank God for every good thing that happens in their life. Knowing that Christ has us in mind and cares for us, we also learn to offer Him our bitter moments which we sometimes make even more bitter because we ignore that what Christ wants is to temper us through them ... and make us better Christians.

Provided everything at the Three Day Cursillo weekend is done as it should have been, in the end everyone is sincere.

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