



THE CHRISTIAN LEADER IN THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT National Virtual Encounter - July 25, 2020

I. Christian Humanism.

- A. In this rollo we are going to disregard a little the structures of the Movement: That is Precursillo, Cursillo, Group, Ultreya, School, Secretariat and we are going to take care and worry a little more about the person.

So, to begin, I would like you to have in mind, four questions that I hope we can answer throughout this rollo:

1. **Firstly, about the person:** If the person does not recognize his or her value as a person, if he or she does not know his or her weaknesses and his or her potentials, how can he or she develop as a leader?
2. **Second, about the leader:** Similarly, if he or she does not recognize himself as a leader, as he or she is reminded during the Cursillo, that we are all leaders in one way or another, what kind of leader can he be?
3. **Thirdly, about the Christian:** And if this same person, even though he or she considers himself or herself a leader, knows absolutely nothing about Christianity, what kind of Christian leader can he or she be?
4. **And finally, about the Christian Leader in the CM:** Now as a Christian Leader in the CM. If this Christian Leader has freely chosen to serve our Church in the world through the Cursillo Movement, how can he or she be effective in this vocation, if he or she does not know the Mentality, the Purpose, the Essence and the Methodology of this beautiful Movement? In short, if it does not know the Foundational Charism that the Holy Spirit deposited in our founder Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló for the benefit of the church in the world, and which, neither you nor I, nor anyone else can change.

- B. But before we start answering these questions, we need to be completely aware of something very logical; if there is something or a lot to transform in the world, it can be done by transforming the people that comprise it. Especially if we choose to serve our Church in the World, through this Charism of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement.

II. Towards Integral and Progressive Conversion.

- A. So, what should this Christian Cursillista Leader do, in order to achieve his integral and progressive conversion and that of the people in the environments of the world in which he lives?

No one gives what he or she does not have; no one communicates what he or she is not, especially when we speak of a Kerygmatic Charism, such as the Foundational Charism of the Cursillo Movement, which is contagious and promoted through the life of the person who lives it. Through the Christian attitudes, actions and reactions of this person, who discovered God's love and friendship, in Christ Jesus, and who feels the need, to share it with all those around him. Therefore, we need to start from the sincere and constant effort, to achieve our own conversion

First of all, we need to value ourselves as a person and as an active member of the Mystical Body of Christ, with our defects and our values, for what? So that wherever we are on that scale, we can continually grow as persons.

Second, after we have valued ourselves as people, then we need to recognize and believe, just as we were told in our Cursillo, that we are Leaders in one way or another wherever we move in the world. Only in this way we can continue to grow as leaders, discovering and developing our talents.

Third, already recognizing our value as a person and as leaders, wanting to be Christian leaders, we need to know our doctrine, our catechism, the Gospels, the encyclicals and everything that our beloved Pope Francis has been telling us. Because if we do not know something about all of this, how can we call ourselves Christian leaders? This is much more important to be a Christian, than any other title we hang on of any ecclesiastical movement!

And fourthly, already walking as a Christian leader and seeking the path where our Father wants us to serve him (seeking our vocation), if in any case it happens to be the Movement of Cursillos in Christianity, then we freely acquire the responsibility of knowing its mentality, its purpose, its essence, and methodology of this beautiful Charism that the Holy Spirit deposited in our Founder Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló.

TESTIMONY

Recalling when I lived the experience of the workshop, I can share that I was always a very introverted person, very orderly and had a whole plan for my whole life. But this that I now try to do for Christ through the Cursillo Movement, was never in my plans. After living the course, I was discovering certain values that made me feel more personal and realizing that all these values came to me because of the love that our Lord has for us, I urge myself to know Him a little more to correspond and serve Him. In this way, I have tried every day since I lived my workshop to be a better Christian and bear witness to his gospel. And in all this process of getting to know him and while investigating what the Cursillistas had done with me to make me feel how I felt, I began to study this charism of the Cursillos in Christianity Movement and ended up falling more in love with Christ for what he makes possible through of the simple of this great Charism. Consequently, I freely decided to serve our church through this beautiful Charism.

In this way and through study, I consequently discovered the functions of a Christian Leader as explained in the book "Structure of Ideas":

- To know
- Locate
- Enlighten
- Accompany

1. To know.

- a) We have been reminded many times, that in order to teach Latin to John, the most important thing is to know John.
- b) As in the Cursillo and the Precursillo, in the Postcursillo we will continue to be interested in knowing:
 - his personality,
 - his disposition,
 - his circumstance.
- c) And to find out, we'll have to go:
 - for the treatment of knowledge,

- for the knowledge of friendship.
- d) In a meeting between two people, in which the other person is sincere, because we have previously been sincere with him. Unilateral or one-sided knowledge always smells of espionage.
- e) This knowledge leads to:
- understanding and,
 - admire each other.
- To understand: not only to know who he or she is and how he or she is, but why he or she is the way he or she is: what he or she thinks, what he or she feels, how he or she lives and how he or she aspires to live.
- To admire: it is to share with humility so that he or she becomes what he or she can and should be, and not what we would like him or her to be.

2. **To situate...**

a) It is not:

- frame,
- to distribute tasks,
- to give new responsibilities.

b) Is:

Not to create new commitments for them, but to clarify those they already had, so that they can freely contribute their possibilities.

c) Possibilities We must search:

- the possibilities in everyone.
- their possibilities in their own... in each.
- their possibilities in their measure and level... of today.
- their possibilities every day, always.

Baptism will bring us into contact with the Lord in the Church; only when each one voluntarily contributes his own possibilities and, in his measure, is efficiency achieved. Because then his dedication is:

- inescapable - because it is non-transferable.
- effective - because it responds to his charisms.
- joyful and continuous - because it responds to your vocation as a layperson
- authentic and normal - because it responds to their maturity
- every day - because it is born of an inner dissatisfaction.

To situate will therefore be to help each one finds his place as a Christian in the Church and in the world and try to bring his Christianity to the ultimate consequences in the line of secularity: our daily life.

3. **To enlighten:**

- a) It is to give criteria, so that the path to be followed in the salvific mission over men and women and the world may be better.
- b) It is to give spirit, that is, courage to advance along the way, even if it costs and precisely because it costs.

4. **To accompany:**

a) That is, it is to walk beside others, so that they may learn to walk by themselves.

There are two dangers:

- 1) Paternalism - that is, not wanting to let go. It is to walk beside them, so that they learn to walk by themselves.

- 2) Abandonment - is the opposite of paternalism. Many of the failures are due to abandonment after the Cursillo; not only by the person who sponsored them, but also by the leaders who served on their Cursillo.

TESTIMONY

Thinking about this Apostolic Action of the Christian Leader in the MCC and analyzing my own life before, during and after my cursillo, I have nothing left but to thank Our Lord Jesus Christ, who, from the very beginning, always provided me with very good leaders who have guided me during these 43 years of serving our church through the Cursillo Movement.

These Leaders had to know me very well, so as not to force me at any time to do absolutely anything. I fell in love little by little and, always, I was simply invited or motivated to walk, not at the speed of their pace, but at my own pace. Even in the study, because they did not force me to study, they just took advantage of my questions and concerns, to drop a book that answered or clarified them. But I never remember being told that I was wrong or that what I said or how I said it made no sense, on the contrary, they congratulated me and motivated me to want to continue and improve everything I was doing. In fact, none of these leaders told me that I had to stay in the Cursillo Movement, but I just discovered the great value of this charism, by realizing the normal and natural way in which Christ transmits this great love and friendship to all who approach him.

Some of these leaders, whom I mention without a name, now continue to propel me from heaven. And others are still by my side, even though I'm already flying. These always show me, in one way or another, that they are still there, for when I need them. And in the same way, I know and feel that I always count with their prayers.

III. On the Way of Normality.

- A. With this book of "Structure of Ideas", and many more about the Cursillo Movement, I was able to confirm that all these Functions of the Christian Leader in the MCC were applied to my own person and were carried out within the normality of my own life. I could exactly verify the effectiveness, of carrying out this apostolic action, within the path of normality of each person:
 1. Taking advantage of the normal circumstances of life.
 2. Without multiplying the number of "commitments" made by the leaders.
 3. Knowing how to always be an apostle, so as not to have to go around "doing apostolates".

IV. In consequence, the Christian Leader in the Cursillo Movement, is:

- A. In conclusion, the Christian Leader in the MCC is one who has his whole personality empowered at all times, for the love of God, men and the world. Because it is Man who loves!
- B. And, consequently, the function of the Christian Leaders in the Cursillo Movement is the same as that of the Movement itself: to seek, accelerate and perfect the conversion of man, with the assurance that, with the coming of the Kingdom of God, we will also be given additions. And these additions will be, as the gospel guarantees, and Eduardo reminded us when he said:

"A beautiful world, very important people and life worth living"!

De Colores!

Juan Ruiz