

## SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS - 10. "TRACES OF THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE"

*What have we discovered so far about this companionship? If we remain "in the anguish of a purely human experience", this discovery is limited by fleeting enthusiasms and by our impressions. Like for the one who at the Beginning Day said: "Nothing new, I've already heard this", as if it were a series of definitions to learn and repeat.*

*Even we, like the apostles, are not fully aware of what has happened to us. But it can happen, "a new criterion, another light, something new, finally", that reignites our heart and opens our eyes. It is "the coming of His Spirit" (Traces of the Christian Experience–Worksheet 10).*

*This is what happened to Maria, whose witness we publish here.*

*Has something happened to you that has opened your eyes about what you thought you already knew?*

I was quite happy with the Beginning Day, but, while Carrón was speaking, I kept saying to myself that I had already heard these things and that I would've loved to hear something new. My position changed when at the end he spoke about the hundred-fold, because I understood that if the promise is this gusto in doing everything, I want to live in this companionship. Yet still, that thought of "I've already heard this" did not totally leave me.

It really struck me when at a meeting Pigi said: "Carrón gives us these same things over again because he wanted us to hear them." I began to feel a huge gratitude for Carrón, because in telling me those things again he wanted something great for me. He was returning me to something that I thought I had already understood, comprehended. And instead, I have only verified a tiny bit of his words. Carrón was indicating a new road for me, the same road (to judge everything), that I often struggle to follow (because it takes a lot of effort to judge everything). But he was also promising me that this is the path that leads to the hundred-fold.

Since school began, there have been a lot of struggles, my studies are sometimes heavy, but there, that afternoon at the Beginning Day, he was giving me the instruments that help me not get crushed by the things that I'm doing. I have only appreciated a tiny fraction of this because I had this sense that I "already knew"; but last Wednesday, while Pigi was speaking, I saw that I hadn't understood anything and that Carrón loved me so much by bring this path of verification to my attention.

Now that I am beginning to understand this desire for my good, I will be more ready to listen to those same things spoken again, because what he said is becoming the dearest thing that I have, because it is the path to enjoy everything more and to move forward.

The thing that I am continually discovering in these weeks is that in this companionship, I encounter people that are in love with my life: Carrón who points out a path, a few of the adults that love me no matter what, a few friends that I am getting to know better and that help me be free... All this can happen only because when I am with them, there is an Other among us, what they give me is not because they are great, but first of all because of a love that feeds us through Christ.

**Maria**