

(English translation)

Rocca di Papa, 23 February 1971

Jesus the Teacher

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The Movement began with a few people and a name was given to that group at the beginning, the very, very beginning. It was called "school," "School of Fire."

It was indeed a school. It carried out the function of a school, but it was a very original one. In fact, it wasn't a school because of books, classrooms or studies. No, that group was a school because it had a Teacher, One who lived among those students: it was Jesus.

Now, that reality was so great and so divine that this school could not be compared to any other. Not only this, but since Jesus was the Teacher, His lessons were special; they were far beyond any others, even those of the greatest teachers on earth. Indeed, at times it seemed that He taught things which could appear as foolishness to the eyes of others, even to the wisest, like when He revealed and explained to us the value of suffering.

Or it could have appeared that His was not even a doctrine, if by doctrine we intend a purely intellectual reality.

One thing was certain, however: the One who lived in our midst was God and so he could answer all the questions of every person in each era.

Alright, now we can ask ourselves: Jesus, our Teacher, does he answer the questions of people in our times? We can affirm: Jesus answers the questions of people in our times in the measure that we are faithful to Him.

At the very beginning of this way of life of the gen 1, there was a period we cannot and must not forget. It was when Jesus made us understand in a very clear way that it was absurd to look elsewhere for the truth when it was completely contained in Him, the Word, the Truth made Person.

It was when He in practice said to us: leave the other teachers; follow me and you will learn everything. It was when it became clear, from the first things that He taught us, that there was a light that was not the fruit of reasoning but which came from above.

It was when He clearly faced us with the reality which St. Augustine felt so strongly: in the inner recesses of the soul dwells the truth. It was when we, the first gen, gave a name to this light that came from heaven and we called it the "Ideal."

It was when God asked us to give up all the truth that others could give us so that He Himself could be our Teacher and teach us the truth. It was when God gave us the strength to put all our books by other teachers in the attic so that He could reveal Himself to us.

This act in our life is at the foundation of all the doctrine of the Movement, of the Ideal. And it must necessarily be the foundation of whoever wishes to follow Jesus in our Movement.

We are all called to put aside our books; to do so at least spiritually in order to understand in a true, vital and divine way the book, par excellence, the book of God, the Gospel, the Bible, which is the code of our new existence.

It is not enough to do this just once. It must always be repeated in our hearts, even when it is the will of God to study. Yes, Jesus wants us to empty our minds completely so that He may enlighten us, clarify the truth for us, also to make us understand how much truth there may be in others, in famous scholars, for example, which history has not forgotten because they succeeded in understanding a ray of light from the Light itself, the Truth of God.

This act of spiritually putting aside our books in order to know the truth is fundamental also for the gen 2. In fact, today's world doesn't need cultured and learned persons who have a lot of ideas. The

world needs wise people, people filled with the Holy Spirit, young people who live the Gospel, of whom Jesus can say: "I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children" (Mt. 11:25).

The Gen Movement has come about precisely in order to give this wisdom to the world.

At this point someone might ask me: What has Jesus taught you in all these years?

It's impossible to tell you in a few words. The fact is that His light has been so abundant and so penetrating that it has reached the very ends of the earth and continues to fascinate and attract countless people from every continent, culture and mentality.

But if I should attempt to say a few words about what Jesus has taught me, has taught the Movement, I would have to declare that He has given me a light that all the negative protesting, all the heresies, all the deviations cannot put out.

In fact, He said: "Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain may fall, the floods may come, the wind may blow and beat against the house, but it is not ruined, it doesn't fall, because it was built on the rock" (Mt 7:24-25).

What are the rains, the floods, the winds if not the various doctrines, more or less just, more or less balanced, that the minds of men and women of all centuries have formulated, that fascinate and deceive people of our times with fleeting glimmerings of light which then die out in order to leave room for others?

Jesus, our Teacher, has taught me that in order to understand the truth, to go deep into the truth, to truly possess it, it is necessary not only to memorize it, but above all to put it into practice.

And what has this method produced? A countless number of fruits.

It enlightens us within, not only the mind but all our being because it is light and love and life all together. So if the storm breaks out in the field of doctrine and the mind is disturbed and begins to doubt (and no one is exempt from this), our spirit, heart and all our being will react.

Nowadays, when people are still tormented by anguish, He has given me peace. He calls it His own: "My peace" (Jn 14:27), which is Jesus Himself. And whoever has experienced it can never forget it.

If we lose it, there is no peace in the world that can replace it. Yes, because Jesus gives answers - the dialogue of Jesus the Teacher is a dialogue of facts. Even when human beings rebelled against God, He did not answer with a discussion but with a fact: He became man and died for us.

And something else, He gives you a joy that is so complete, so divine, so elating that if the storm is in the field of morals, and someone tries to lure you by offering a life of happiness made of earthly things (like worldly pleasures, the unrestrained pleasure of the senses, drugs...), you will know right away that you will never reach even the foot of the mountain of happiness, that He has made you climb by filling you with the beatitudes, already here on earth.

He has given me, given us, a demonstration of His truth because we have tangibly experienced the fulfillment of His promises: whatever we have given every day, He has given back to us every day. If we have left something or someone, He has given us the hundredfold, both in material and spiritual goods.

In moments of fear in which I, for example, have felt all of my weakness, He has given me the strength that could only come from His grace.

Not only does He satisfy all your desires, but also what you wouldn't even dream of having.

In short, He loves you as only God can love, and He wants to give to you beyond all measure: He wants to infuse Himself in you; He wants to love you as He loves the Father and as He is loved by the Father.

Jesus, as a true Teacher, forms people. He makes them like towers that do not crumble. He enlightens them to the point of making them lanterns which give light to all the others who are navigating and searching in darkness and doubt.

So this is what Jesus the Teacher does with His disciples. And this is why the Gen Movement was born; to form these athletes of God, heroes of the Gospel, witnesses of truth for the world, the proof that God is fullness, happiness, peace, beauty, richness, abundance, love, mercy and trust.

The Gen Movement was born to make the world hope again in Someone who never deceives but who accompanies you from the cradle to the grave, always telling you the truth and always supporting you with His personal love.

He died for each one of us and He can and wants to give us all that I have said. The Movement is really an opportunity to enrich young people with all these things.

If all the gen put the Word of God into practice, they will be like a house built on rock. Then let all the spiritual earthquakes come, but the Gen Movement will live on - just as throughout twenty centuries, which were also very stormy, the Church has endured.

But you must not allow yourselves to be deceived by anyone. You must follow only one Teacher. Also the Gospel says that we should not attribute this name to anyone else.

With Jesus, the Gen Movement will truly serve the Church, the Movement and humanity, and it will contribute towards fulfilling Jesus' Testament: "May they all be one" (Jn 17:21).

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