

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD



Catholic Biblical Federation

TOWARDS THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD (21.1.2024)

20 January 2024 - Online Conference

Concluding remarks and perspectives for the future

Ernesto Borghi

What we were able to hear from the effective and passionate words of Mariana Zossi, Eric Morin and George Ossom-Batsa outlined perspectives and made us reflect, we hope, on the essential relevance of a life rich in trust in the God of Sinai and Jesus Christ, which is articulated according to an ever more fundamental and essential logic: to live in an ever more intelligent and intense way the existential deepening of one's faith in catechesis, in worship beginning with the celebrations that commemorate the Last Supper, and in actions of charity in solidarity towards others. None of these three spheres can be lived in isolation or in poor relationship with the other two. The biblical scriptures say this very often, from the First to the New Testament.

When? Whenever they emphasise how much the development of the human being's relationship with God passes through the cultivation of one's interiority in confrontation with the divine loving care for human beings, made up of deliverance from evil and gratitude for the good received.

How? By pointing out that each person is not made to abide by rules and precepts for their own sake, but to live the love manifested by God not first and foremost with folded hands alone, but by using them openly for the benefit of anyone in need, and by seeking in prayer the ability to realise these actions of solidarity in the image and likeness of the choice of Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the benefit of anyone..

From the Bible to daily life: this is the path to which the “Fifth Sunday of the Word of God” also calls, in this beginning of 2024, still marked by bloody wars from one end of the Planet to the other, and in particular in the area of the world that saw the birth of the religions that in Abraham see a progenitor of their identity. In the formative path just mentioned, made up of constant re-readings of the scriptural texts and of one’s own existence, from the texts themselves to the values derived from them many centuries after they were written, a fundamental part of the future of the Church of Jesus Christ and the decisive reason for its existence is at stake, we believe. This awareness must be ever more effective in the hearts and minds of anyone who cares about Christian religious identity and, even more, about the happy future of present and future generations.

Remaining in the Word of the God of Jesus Christ is not an easy choice, but it becomes impossible if one does not know well what it is and what the formidable humanising relevance of this Word is, entrusted to human beings, starting with those who call themselves Jewish and Christian believers, so that it may be the basic reference point of their lives and be the passionate and exciting object of their formative action.

Catechesis, liturgy and charity in solidarity, from the Bible to everyone’s life: let us take this perspective of action seriously, from the North to the South, from the West to the East of our Planet, multiplying the occasions in which we can live the relationships between these spheres of ecclesial life, knowing that one is the Church of Jesus Christ in a radical way when one is confronted with the Word of God together with other people.

And today we have so many opportunities, including educational ones, that not to share this course of action would really be, let’s face it, irresponsible in too many religious and cultural, but above all largely human, respects.



Sunday 21 January 2024

<https://c-b-f.me/DPD2024-EN>

