The Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Father Adolfo Nicolás, spent three days in Lebanon, from 23rd to 27th March.

On March 25, on the occasion of the celebration of World Day of the Christian Life Community, Father Nicolás SJ, Ecclesiastical Assistant of World CLC, met members of the Community. At the beginning of the meeting in the presence of Father Nicolás, some members made their temporary and permanent commitments.

**Rapid and profound changes**

The words of Father General, full of experience and spirituality are marked by its depth. "The Dominican Father Gustavo Gutierrez, who initiated the theory of liberation, said in an interview, the importance of a solid spirituality for lay people. On the question of what spirituality is most appropriate for them, he said, Ignatian spirituality, as it provides a methodology to the daily professional life, personal and social progress and grow in God's will" said Father Nicolás. "While maintaining the identity, Christian Life Community, must also adapt to the challenges of present times, because the changes are very rapid and profound"...

Another challenge is the lack of compassion in the world. According to Father Nicolás, all humankind is found on three things in common: pain, love and growth. "Why do we cause suffering to each other? Why do we not reduce suffering, poverty and injustice? If we do not open the way for the acceptance of others and grow together, it will not work. It's credibility that society needs.

It has been observer since 1970, a language crisis: everyone speaks very well, but do it from the heart? Is this how it reflects our values and our relationships with others? These are difficult times, but very engaging. And these are tough times for big people”.

Addressing members of the CLC, he said: "It's time for that as a group we respond to these challenges. You’re in competition with all these changes and challenges. You need to distinguish what is deep within the superficial everyday life and that, relying on the spirituality of Jesus Christ."

**DISCERNMENT OF MARY**

Moments of great emotion marked by the speech of Father Adolfo Nicolás commenting on the text of the Annunciation: "The message today is a vocation, discernment, decision. God always comes with a vocation, a calling, a new invitation, which became a surprising challenge. And we see that Mary felt that the announcement of what will happen. She is very honest with herself, to her conscience and before God: she has clearly expressed her incomprehension. Then comes the moment of discernment. She thought in herself and when she realizes that this is the word of the Lord, she accepted it without conditions. Mary is not the person who easily says yes. She posed questions, raised some difficulties: it is the discernment honest, sincere. Do you remember the parable of two brothers that were sent by their father at work, one easily said yes but did not go, while the other one said no, more sincere, but there will afterwards?

Discernment is not easy, because it is based on the reality of ourselves, about our difficulties. The key is whether it is the will of God or not. The Lord is discreet, sometimes silent. In discernment, we enter the depths of our heart to feel where God wants to guide us, because the call is in the heart. The goal is to make our life an image of Christ. Discernment has occurred when we look for signs and we find them. When Mary said yes, more questions and all problems are eliminated one after another. Mary realizes that the salvation of humanity depends on her. She says yes with his heart and starts to be moved. That kind of yes that is true because it involves energy and joy, even in case of difficulty and inner struggle."

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Excerpts from the article published in "La Revue du Liban" No. 4308 - 2 to 9 April, 2011