

LORD LET US SEE YOUR KINDNESS...

What do the three readings that the Church proposes to us this Sunday have in common?

We could say that it is discouragement and the response that God offers us before it.

There is a false belief that those who believe in God will never experience fatigue or discouragement. Nothing could be further from reality.

Discouragement is not a lack of faith, but rather it is a place where we discover our limitations, and it is an opportunity to mature our faith.

In the first reading taken from the book of Kings, the prophet Elijah has to flee to the desert and reach Mount Horeb to hide from Queen Jezebel, who wants to kill him. For this reason, he faces a feeling of discouragement as all his efforts seem to have been in vain.

How many of us have not experienced the same thing, that after much effort and total dedication, we have not obtained the results we expected.

As in the second reading, the apostle St Paul is deeply saddened, because many of his brothers have not decided to accept Christ. The apostle suffers because he loves them.

While the Gospel presents us with the discouragement of the disciples, after the multiplication of the loaves they leave and get into a boat tired, without, without understanding.

We also know discouragement in some aspects of our lives: in marriage, which after many years can become difficult, and it seems that there is no way out, in the family, or in the face of a challenging economic reality. Many live in disenchantment and disappointment, because life is not as they expected. (a student who has studied a lot, and has managed to

graduate from university, and suddenly does not achieve job stability or the job that he expected.)

But in all these situations, and many more that we could mention, the Lord always surprises us:

Elijah, in the first reading, discovers that God is not in the noise or in the earthquake or in the fire. He lies in the gentle breeze in the silence. We need to rediscover the value of silence, get away from all that noise that contaminates us, cell phones and electronic devices that overwhelm our reason, steal our time and health.

Christianity, following our Catholic faith, is not about doing many things for God, first and foremost; It is to remain with Him, to let ourselves be supported by Him.

Before DOING there is BEING, before activity there is contemplation, before mission there is prayer. And Jesus teach us this in the gospel. After the multiplication of the loaves, when everything is gone, he sets aside a solitary place to pray; spend the night in prayer with God. And this allows Jesus to continue trusting those fragile men that he had chosen as disciples and they still did not understand his mission and commitment to extend the kingdom of God.

Faith consists of when we feel like we are sinking like Peter; In the midst of the waves of problems, let us discover that Jesus is there to sustain us.

Jesus does not promise us that the waves in our lives will disappear; but by letting ourselves be supported by him we can continue forward.

When discouragement comes to our lives, let us not remain in the cave of fear, like Elijah, let us seek to hear the soft voice of God in the silence of prayer.

When we feel like we are sinking like Peter, the apostle, let us repeat his words: Lord, save me!

When we see inconsistencies or anti-testimonies in our church, let us not be discouraged; This boat belongs to Christ, and he does not abandon us. It takes us to a safe harbor.

May our participation in this Eucharist renew our trust in Jesus. And to say like the others disciples of Jesus, truly you are the Son of God.

Let us learn from Elijah, the value of silence; of Jesus, the power of prayer; of Peter the humility to ask for help in time.

Who knows, supported by Christ, is capable of reaching the other shore.

May our mother from heaven reach us this blessing. Amen.