

### TESTIMONY – 3. “GENERATING TRACES IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD”

*We have asked ourselves: “Has something happened in these last days, during Christmas break or coming back to school, which corresponded so much that it was able to re-open us to the totality of life?”. Faith, as we read in the text last week, is the recognition of a presence and the adhesion to this presence through something that corresponds, that happens to us. Just like what happened to our friend, whose testimony we share below, who recognized the presence of Someone greater in the friends that reached out to him and welcomed him. “Here it is no longer our reason that explains, but our reason that opens up... to God’s self-revelation” (Generating Traces–Worksheet 3).*

*Has something that corresponds like this happened to you, through which you recognized and adhered to the divine presence in your life?*

I am writing about the experience of the last New Year’s Eve party with GS, above all because a beauty like this has never happened to me before. We came back from the GS winter vacation and had only two days, the 30th and the 31st to organize everything: in particular, I was in charge of organizing the evening and various games. At first, I thought that we would not end up having one of those beautiful evenings where we have fun, but rather something a little more dull, and this idea was confirmed by the smiles and the amused faces of my friends.

The same night I had to go to another party that was “more cool” and, apparently, more fun. After the toast at midnight and after the “frizzi”, I left with five other friends. When we arrived at the other party, all we saw were drunken pendulums swaying back and forth. After the GS New Year’s party, which I spent with my greatest and truest friends, with those who from the first moment looked at each other with a gaze of love, I asked myself: “How can I stay in a place where this gaze doesn’t exist?” And in fact, after 20 minutes, three other friends and I called a friend who was a teacher and asked him to come pick us up, because staying at that party didn’t do anything for us.

As soon as I made this decision, my heart was full. I can’t describe the emotion I felt the minute I stepped out of the car. When I opened the door, within two minutes all those who stayed at the first party reached out to me, shouting “Great! You’ve come back!”. I didn’t even have time to look at them before I burst out crying, but a good cry, thinking about those who were there, and above all sad for my friends that had remained at the other party.

I repeat, something like this has never happened to me. And in that moment I understood the importance of GS, and inevitably the living presence of Someone greater. We all make mistakes, but the greatness of man is in recognizing those mistakes. My last New Year’s party was unforgettably beautiful. If GS is the place where I can say “I” with certainty, now I SHOUT it out, because I’m part of it and I get the best out of it, and it fills me 100%. I understand that I can’t lose another minute, another second, and that the Everything shows itself here, in these faces. I want to give everything to see that Everything.

(signed letter)