

EASTER 2020 – “I AM LIVING, NOT I, BUT YOU ARE LIVING IN ME”

5. “Change is an openness”

In expectation of the video assembly with Julián Carrón on 21 May, we propose taking a look at a passage from the last video School of Community with Father Carrón (6 May 2020), letting ourselves be guided by this question: **“What allows us to open ourselves to reality?”**

I will tell you briefly about the past few weeks. For me, the bar is always being raised higher! In these days I often think that I would like to be elsewhere: with my family (among other things, my grandchild was born a few days ago), with friends, or simply doing my own things. One morning, I woke up and realized that I had become defensive. But a different hypothesis has been introduced.

This is the point! You can get up being “defensive,” but the question is whether you let in “a different hypothesis.”

Or rather, a question about the reality that awaited me beyond the door of my room: What are you afraid of? Do you think that even here, even today, there cannot be something for you? What endless gratitude I have for this different outlook that is always offered to me as a possibility, for the fact that it entered my life. If today I want to live life with meaning, I have no other place to do this than in the circumstances that have been given to me. That day was no longer an effort, not a holding on until I could finally do what I wanted, even something good. It was a free life, full only of a desire and curiosity about what was there for me. I sense that something very precious for me is at stake. The worst thing that could happen to me is to start living by following my vision of things and no longer seeing reality. I wholeheartedly wish to be challenged by reality as it is without mitigating its impact. For example, I have been invited to a thousand calls, aperitifs, and remote virtual games with friends ... A little of this can be fun, but I prefer not to reduce the drama of experiencing a lack, a longing, and of letting them shake me deep down. The first grace I see in my life is the change in me; that is, being able to stay in front of the circumstances given to me. The second is that various entreaties arise in me, above all that I be open, not only to saying yes to doing certain things, but to have a deeper openness. An openness to really letting myself be asked, “Do you love me? Is there something you keep from Me because you are afraid that I could not be victorious there?” This ultimate openness, this morality, as the School of Community calls it, seems to me the most precious thing at stake for me. You have no idea how grateful I am for the fact that there is someone who continues to keep my desire for real life alive, everywhere and always, who wants me to live and continually deepens my way of looking at reality and continuously asks me in a thousand different ways, but always, ultimately, this question, “Do you love me? Do you want to be with Me now, here, where you »

» *don't miss out on anything if I am present, with you?" I thank you for your great friendship.* Do you see? Nobody assures us that we can get up in the morning without being on the defensive, but we can still open ourselves up to another possibility and begin to look at the circumstances, allowing ourselves to be struck by what comes toward us, as Fr. Giussani teaches us. When we don't allow ourselves to be distracted by other things that may seem to facilitate a solution, but rather accept reality as it is, we begin to realize that change is not so much in doing things, but in an openness, an openness to the You who comes to meet us in those circumstances: "Do you love me? Why are you afraid?" Allowing this You to enter, refusing to compromise our sincerity in looking at Him, makes "new knowledge" possible. I am introduced to this "new knowledge" by adhering with all my freedom to that You.

[...]

Fr. Giussani wants to educate us to this: not to look for an alternative, dualistic way with of living in reality, but instead to live intensely the real, to reach the depth of things with your gaze, and to recognize within that depth the You who makes you. "Though living in the flesh, I live in faith in the Son of God"; that is, "I belong to an Event, to an origin that changes the way I look at things; the way I look at things becomes faith" (p. 55). Faith is this gaze into the depth of reality made possible by his Presence, otherwise dualism prevails. Instead, in this way any circumstance or "the person before me, whoever he may be, [...] marks out the road through which I reach Christ, the You of which all things are made, and so for that person I have esteem, respect, [...] I can adore his face" (p. 56). This is a "Copernican revolution," as you said. This is what we have to decide, friends: whether to accept this Copernican revolution that Fr. Giussani introduces into our relationship with reality so as to overcome dualism, or to multiply initiatives that don't make any difference. This is our contribution to the world, our yes to him.

Remember that, looking forward to the assembly, it is possible to send questions and witnesses to: <http://eventi.comunioneliberazione.org/gscontributi/>