

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ECCLESIAL ASSEMBLY

ITINERARY OF SPIRITUALITY # 4

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER



“WE ARE ALL MISSIONARY  
DISCIPLES GOING FORTH” 



**THEME: “ON AND FOR THE NEW  
PATHS OF A FULL LIFE FOR  
EVERYONE IN LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN”**

**SLOGAN: “DISCIPLES GOING  
FORTH TO THE OTHER SHORE”**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **AMBIANCE**

- CANDLE,
- CLOTH,
- FLOWERS,
- VIDEO AND MUSIC PLAYER,
- STRING BITS TO DISTRIBUTE AMONG PARTICIPANTS,
- BIBLE

# RECEPTION AND GREETING

Dear brothers and sisters, welcome to this encounter! May the God of life be in our hearts. May Jesus, the beloved Son, continues to make us fall in love with Him and pursue His goal, and may the Divine Wisdom continue to lead our steps as missionary disciples in building the Kingdom of God.

## MOTIVATION

As missionary disciples we are invited to traverse new paths that enables a full life in everyone in our Latin American continent. In this encounter we will deepen in what doesn't allow us to feel as brothers and sisters, *and new paths and pastoral projects may arise that instill a firm hope to live responsibly and joyfully in the faith, and radiate it in our own environment.*

This song may help us connect to what we will reflect upon today: "Somos uno" (Axel/ Abel Pintos) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MibkygUPLU>



# **FIRST MOMENT**



**TOUCH LIFE**

# FIRST MOMENT:

## TOUCH LIFE

- Let's watch the short film: "Strings" [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4INwx\\_tmTKw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4INwx_tmTKw)

- Let's share the echoes:

- » In your own words tell us what you saw
- » Which character do you identify yourself with? Why?
- » Why do you think Maria's friends say she is weird?
- » Have you had to interact with someone "different"? How did you feel? How do they make you feel?
- » What do you think about Maria's attitude?
- » Think about your own lives: What type of calling do you feel around you?
- » Who are the excluded of your environment?
- » Would you be willing go and meet with that "different" person and befriend her/him?
- » End with a gesture that will help maintain this experience through time: The animator will call each person by name and give out the previously prepared string for everyone to tie it to their wrists as they think of someone who needs to be tied to. Details on the commitment will be given at the end of the encounter.

*Cuerdas*

# **SECOND MOMENT**



**ENLIGHTEN LIFE**

# SECOND MOMENT:

## ENLIGHTEN LIFE

After this moment, we invite you to read together the following paragraphs of the **Aparecida Document**:

358. But the living conditions of many of those who are abandoned, excluded, and ignored in their poverty and pain stand in contradiction to this project of the Father and challenge believers to greater commitment to the culture of life. The Kingdom of life that Christ came to bring is incompatible with such inhuman situations. If we try to close our eyes to these realities, we are not advocates of the life of the Kingdom and we place ourselves on the path of death: “We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death” (1 Jn 3:14). The “unbreakable bond between love of God and love of neighbor”<sup>204</sup> which “invites all to overcome grave social inequalities and the enormous differences in access to goods”<sup>205</sup> must be emphasized. Both concern for developing more just structures and for transmitting the social values of the gospel are situated in this context of fraternal service to worthy life in dignity.

359. We thus discover a profound law of reality: life only develops fully in fraternal and just communion. For “God, in Christ, redeems not only the individual person but also the social relations existing between men.”<sup>206</sup> Given the various situations that reflect the divisions between brothers and sisters, we feel compelled to assure that the Catholic faith of our Latin American and Caribbean peoples is expressed in a more decent life for all. The Church’s rich social magisterium tells us that we cannot conceive of an offer of life in Christ without dynamism toward integral liberation, humanization, reconciliation, and involvement in society

As missionary disciples we strive to joyfully embrace the Good News of the Kingdom. The listening of the **Word** allows us to get to know, love and follow, and identify ourselves with Him.

We welcome the Word singing: “Sed Felices” or another suitable song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YCWQN29ee0>

**Text**: Matthew 4, 23-25



# **THIRD MOMENT**

A watercolor illustration of two hands clasped together in a prayerful or contemplative gesture. The hands are rendered in soft, muted tones of purple, blue, and pink. The background is a vibrant, abstract watercolor wash with splatters of various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The overall style is artistic and expressive.

**INFLUENCE IN LIFE**





## **THIRD MOMENT: INFLUENCE IN LIFE**

### **MOMENT FOR REFLECTION AND MEDITATION**

1. What does the text say?
2. In which way this text relates to the new paths for a full life for everyone in Latin America and the Caribbean”
3. Share.

# FOURTH MOMENT:

## COMMITMENT

We invite you to embark on an “Empathy walk” as way of commitment

- » The goal is: To feel empathy towards someone completely different from you
- » Process:
  - Devote some time to explore (think and search) what type of person in this world is completely different from you. Be creative, let your imagination fly.
  - Once you have thought of someone, decide how to find and meet with a person who has the traits you have imagined throughout this week, whether someone in your city or neighborhood, at work or school...
  - Plan to spend time enough with that person in order to really get to know her/him. Ask yourself what you would say to that person and how much time you would like to spend with her/him...there are no rules or guidelines. Just be creative. The idea is for you to get out of your comfort zone, step away from your computer and social media, and practice empathy, build a relationship with and listen attentively to someone. You can have someone accompany you if you need it.



# **FOURTH MOMENT**

A watercolor illustration of a hand holding a glowing orb. The hand is rendered in shades of blue and purple, with a yellow and orange glow emanating from the palm. The orb is a bright yellow, surrounded by a rainbow-colored ring. The background is a mix of soft watercolor washes in various colors, including blue, purple, pink, and yellow, with some darker splatters. The overall style is artistic and ethereal.

**COMMITMENT**

# FINAL MOMENT

## TO FINISH, WE WILL SHARE THE NEXT POEM FROM F. LUIS CLEVER: ON/FOR NEW PATHS

With courage to leave  
obsolete structures  
and with determination becoming  
a Church forth going

Fearing not getting muddy,  
smelling of sheep  
taking bread to the hungry,  
feeding them with the Eucharist

Caring for the refugees  
sowing peace in conflict  
speaking up against injustice  
raising up the prophetic voice of the Truth

Reminding the powerful  
His preference for the poor  
in faithfulness to Jesus  
Who being rich, became poor

Proclaiming that joy  
Is not found in consumerism,  
and natural resources,  
must be used in a manner of sustain

That human being has dignity,  
regardless of gender, race  
origin, religion,  
or economic condition

Defending life  
in all stages  
from conception  
to its natural end

Being engaged with  
the Common Home,  
our natural resources,  
the lives of animals and plants

Advancing an economic model  
which does not exclude anyone,  
with clear alternatives  
of sustainability

Committed to education  
of quality for everyone,  
for peace, solidarity, ecology  
involving the entire society

Living an ecclesiology  
based in Sinodality  
which learns to listen and question  
free of enforcement and centralization

Finally, becoming a church  
which promotes universal fraternity  
at the service of humanity and a world  
according to the Will of God

A Church unblemished through Christ,  
the Jerusalem that falls from Heaven  
embellished with every gift,  
worthy of Her Divine Husband, Jesus

# WE INVOKE MARY, MOTHER OF OUR PEOPLES:

**Our Lady of the Presentation of El Quinche, patron saint of Ecuador:** *Pray for your people.*

**Virgin of Chiquiquirá, patron saint of Colombia:** *Pray for your people.*

**Our Lady of Coromoto, patron saint of Venezuela:** *Pray for your people.*

**Immaculate Conception of Mary, patroness of Nicaragua:** *Pray for your people.*

**Our Lady of Suyapa, patron saint of Honduras:** *Pray for your people.*

**Saint Mary la Antigua, patron saint of Panama:** *Pray for your people.*

