

## **LORD, WHERE ARE YOU STAYING?**

1 SAMUEL 3:3-10, 10 JOHN 1:35-42

On this Second Sunday of Ordinary Time we have two vocation stories: in the first, taken from the Book of Samuel of the Old Testament, the young Samuel lives in the Temple, where he is learning the ways of God under the mentoring of the priest Eli.

It will be Eli, in fact, who will help young Samuel discern God's voice who was calling him during the night. (We need to be silent like in the night, in order to hear God calling).

Samuel will be a great spiritual leader who will teach and guide the people of Israel to remain faithful to God.

God may call some people to become spiritual leaders in the priesthood or religious life; He may call others to be spiritual leaders in the family as parents, or in schools as teachers. But He also calls everyone to a personal relationship: Father-child love relationship.

We may not be familiar with the various manners God uses to call us, but we can always answer with the beautiful phrase taught by the priest Eli to young Samuel: "SPEAK LORD, YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING".

These words express the attitude we need to have in order to discern our vocation: the prayerful attentiveness that puts us in constant listening mode, the openness of heart, availability, trust in the Lord, and a willingness to do whatever He asks of us.

The Gospel of John presents the second vocation story: as Jesus walked by, John the Baptist pointed him out as the "Lamb of God" to two of his own disciples. Upon hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus, who, seeing them following, asked them: "WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?"

To all the baptized Christians, Jesus is still asking us the same question: "WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?"

WHAT WILL WE ANSWER?

The two disciples in the Gospel answered with another question: "RABBI (TEACHER), WHERE ARE YOU STAYING?"

That is a beautiful answer, even though was put as a question. What does it mean?

To wish to know where someone lives and to see the inside of his home is discovering what that person is like; it is to know his likes and dislikes.

What was Jesus' answer to their question? "COME AND SEE".

In other words, by inviting them to see for themselves, Jesus was willing to reveal himself, his heart, his plan, his desires and making himself available to answer all their questions.

The two disciples went and stayed with Jesus all that afternoon, and they were happy and satisfied that they had spent their day with the long awaited Messiah, so much so that one of them, Andrew, invited his brother Simon to come and experience what he experienced!

Their encounter changed their life forever. From then on, they followed Jesus to be no longer fishers of fish, but fishers of people.

DO YOU DESIRE TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS AND GET TO KNOW HIM?

JESUS IS DELIGHTED TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU AS YOU PRAY AND READ FROM THE BIBLE!

WHAT WOULD YOU ASK HIM? - WHAT DO YOU THINK HE WOULD SAY TO YOU? - WHAT WOULD HE ASK OF YOU?

WILL YOU GIVE HIM YOUR YES?