

Asian Young Holy Family Seekers

Flash -05
12.05.2015



Gathering Sri Lanka

The atmosphere was so conducive to begin the day with fresh sun light, singing of the birds the gentle breeze and the music at the background that invited us to become aware of the all-powerful and magnificent presence of our Father Mother GOD – The Creator of the whole Universe, connecting us to the Ancient Sages who sang the praises of the God and of the Universe in chanting of Mantras. The ancient chanting kept on reminding us of the ANCIENT ONE who dwells within us, among us and in the whole Community of life.

The song “The wave of the love” Which was the story of creation, awakened in us the awareness of the continual expansion of creation, which reveals the greatest love of our Creator God Who invites us to become awakened to the marvels and wonders that are happening around us. The chanting of “OM” prompted us to acknowledge the All Present God - The ANCIENT ONE – FATHER – MOTHER GOD.



NEWS IN BRIEF

The Young Seekers gathered the News around the world to connect the events of the day to make us aware of our inter-relatedness to the People. There is so much to be responded to. The Question is :

**Are we ready?
Where are we moving to?
Who needs us?**



RECAP AND OPEN FORUM

It was a good feeling that we have reached the 5th day of our Gathering. The Young Holy Family Seekers Congratulated themselves saying:

Wow! We have reached the 5th day!

The Seekers were helped to recall the energy and enthusiasm that was present yesterday and the creativity in presenting the life of our Early Mothers. They were left to appreciate and affirm themselves for their giftedness with a little exercise of empowering oneself tight and to say : Oh! I am wonderful!

The facilitator invited the Seekers to re-live the story of our Early Mothers and to draw out from it the outstanding qualities that made their lives very special and very significant to the mission of the Holy Family. They were also challenged to go deeper to see for themselves – what are the qualities that they need to acquire from them, to become daring for the Mission of the Holy Family.



The Seekers expressed that they admire the following outstanding Qualities of our Early Mothers:

- Spirit of discernment
- Freedom of heart to be available for the Mission
- Union with God doing the Will of God
- Strong passion to live for God Alone
- Trust in God's Providence
- Life of sacrifice
- Limitless faith and courage
- Relevant to the context according to the Signs of the times to face the challenges.
- Strong Sense of belonging to the Family
- Unfailing zeal, detachment, letting go
- Simplicity of life
- With the people, for the Poor, love for the Poor
- Tireless Apostles, pleasing to God

The Qualities that the Seekers aspire to acquire are expressed as follows:

- Always to seek the Will of God in Discernment & Prayer
- Limitless Faith & trust in God's Providence
- To be courageous and daring
- Zeal, detachment and Availability
- Love for Jesus, people and the Poor
- Sense of belonging
- To live for God Alone

The Seekers also expressed that though they feel the need to acquire these values, in their day to day life they are faced with difficulties in putting into practice and to persevere in growing and cultivating these qualities. They seem to forget that they are to grow in these and the experience is, their enthusiasm diminishes and they become frustrated.

They were challenged with the Question:

What do you need to do to grow in these qualities, to give your life some rhythm, regularity and balance to sustain your desire to grow?

They were encouraged to reflect personally on this question in order to interiorize their desire.

VOWED LIFE FOR MISSION

It was a well prepared Reflection shared by Sr. Bonaventure Emmanuel. She started by capturing the attention of the Asian Young Holy Family Seekers with a motivating statement:

TO AWAKEN THE MYSTIC AND ALERT THE PROPHET WITHIN EACH ONE

THE Holy Family Document on Vowed for Mission was reflected upon with deeper insights and practical aspects in order for the Seekers to enter into the reality of living our Vowed Life for Mission in a changing world. The reflection highlighted the areas where our energies could be channeled to view our Vows as energy-giving to the whole Community of Life.



In the Asian context the Challenges put forward are:

- “Gentes” in Asian context are believers of other faiths and traditions.
- The Poor and Sick, the abandoned, people at the periphery, people on the move, migrants, refugees, Indigenous people and others.

We are summoned to commit to the Mission in many ways, through:

- Proclamation and Prophecy
- Dialogue and openness
- Fostering enculturation of the Gospel
- Advocacy in solidarity with the struggles of the Poor for Justice and Equality.
- Responding to the cry of the Earth, deeply wounded by the effects of human greed and runaway technology.
- Sincerely working for reconciliation that restores life and dignity of the broken-hearted, Victims of violence, exclusion of every kind, Globalization.
- Taking steps towards common ecumenical witness of all Christians for our Mission to be credible especially in Asia.
- Net-working on special Issues.
- Mystical and contemplative experience with the Sacred Whole – the Divine, through Jesus our Brother who sends us as prophets in our mission.



The discussion and interaction on the reflection and challenges by the Seekers expressed their eagerness to understand the deep and real meaning of our Vows in view of Mission.



FAMILY CORNER

The Seekers were privileged to have Sr. Shyamala, our Contemplative Sister from Nagoda to share on the Call and Vocation of the Contemplative Vocation. Sr. Shyamala expressed that:

- They live the same Charism and Spirituality motivated by the same spirit and aim of the other Holy Family Vocations, living it in a way specific to the Contemplative way of life.
- Nazareth is their School where they learn how to live the Contemplative life.
- It is in Nazareth they are called to discover the simplicity and beauty of ordinary life.
- It is in the Nazareth of their Community that they live the elements constitutive to all Contemplative life in the Church, namely :
 - Search for God Alone
 - Silence and Solitude
 - Continual Prayer
 - Joyful Penance

The Seekers were curious to know about some details of Contemplative way of life, home visits, holidays etc.. and Sr. Shyamala graciously responded.



**The Valiant Holy Family Women going beyond
the clock to be at The service of the Common Mission !**



**We appreciate your generosity, self-giving and availability to make our
Gathering Memorable and Fruitful. You are great indeed!**

**The Young Holy Family
Seekers.**

CLOSING

The day came to a close with a Reflective Song on MOTHER EARTH that touched us to the core of our hearts:

**AS ONE WE WALK THIS EARTH TOGETHER
AS ONE WE SING TO HER OUR SONG
AS ONE WE TOUCH HER
AS ONE WE HEAL HER
AS ONE WE LOVE HER
HER HEART BEATS WITH OUR OWN AS ONE!**

It's only day Five