

Minutes of the Regional Meeting
Mexico - February 2015

Father Jesús Ramírez commented that in the pre-chapter, a plan will be established to put in action the old proposals from past General Cenacles repeated time and again which have not been resolved.

Responses to formation in the charism

We recognize that we do have a charism, but we need to assimilate the fact and retake our identity, not take our traditions for granted but work to preserve and practice them. We need to implement a concrete structure for this. All this, without forgetting our focus on our identity in religious life, as our first source and on our missionary idea, as a second source.

Reclaim our devotions / the book of devotions

Challenges

- Community prayer / Apathy or lack of time
- Not having a book of devotions
- Delve into religious life as a Missionary Servant, in its prophetic role.
- The very question takes us to proposing the necessity of establishing a profile for the person in charge of formation based on our values and charism.
- That those in charge of formation and vocational promotion reflect in their own lives the identity of the Trinitarian charism.
- That he possess the indispensable pedagogical tools for formation, that is, testimony and method
- That they enter a process of on-going formation
- Two stages for formation in the charism are the novitiate and the mission year
- Father Judge's question was mentioned: Why do you want to be a missionary? The expected answer, "for the love of God and neighbor". This was emphasized as what gives us our **identity** as Missionary Servants.
- The challenge is for us to be soaked in our own vision and mission, of what we are. You are responsible for your cenacle. As you are, others will be.
- In some cenacles the charism has been lost. We let ourselves be drawn to what is diocesan and we lose our identity.
- We can imbue students with the experiences of Trinitarians
- One of the challenges is still the struggle to identify what is one's own to be grateful for, what is new. Each person contributes something new to the community and, instead of accepting it we refuse it.
- The importance of revising:
 - a. what our devotions are
 - b. what our motivations are

c. where one's coherence is

d. the identity theme has various aspects which imply going back to the sources permanently

Responses to Mission

- Follow diocesan planning
- Create a structure (document, manual, guide) at the level of the congregation for lay people
- Identify capable candidates with missionary interests
- Consciousness raising among the people so that they not ask for things but work for their sustenance.
- Respect and implement the acts of previous chapters where these questions have been asked and answered in detail.
- The role of the Mission Committee is expected to be one of leadership and of an authority that knows and guides
- In a way these questions send us back to what has gone before, the identity of the members in the Trinitarian charism
- In questions of methodology, return to the sources and ask ourselves: what method did Jesus use?
- The constitutions themselves (No. 5) define the methods
- Reviewing previous acts will be helpful in defining the methods and in putting into practice what was resolved in previous acts
- Identity can well be defined in a method that can be obtained from previous reflections
- Paying attention to the Spirit today and accepting the responsibility of building community, how we are growing in being oneself and a member of a community
- What we are reading now is the fruit of all the regions, not just the Council
- Each one has his own way of working, his gifts to form lay people
- Creating a missionary method has to be a process, although there can be more than one method because there are different realities
- We should help people to work themselves out of a situation, not just to solve a problem. If there are places where systemic change is being implemented, a specific follow up has to be provided

Responses to Spirituality

- Structures that promote spirituality: The Word of God, meditations, community prayer
- They certainly help because they promote being in touch with personal, spiritual and personal life
- Retreats delve into our being Missionary Servants

- We contemplate the richness of our spirituality to light up and give clarity to our apostolic vocation. It is a surprise to find a tradition which is rich in the Christian virtues
- Appropriation of our means and structures / retreats of the Missionary Cenacle Family
- Community life, ST retreats, personal and community prayer. Sharing the spiritual process with an ST, for whom we work as priests, the celebration of the Eucharist, an on-going process of discernment. Practice the devotions.
- Make use of the resources we have. Regular lectio pastoralis. Weekly house council to tend to and share the processes the confreres go through in mission

Responses

- Some structures that promote apostolic spirituality: the house council which not only solves problems but is an opportunity to share the life of faith. It is indispensable.
- The proposal for the yearly retreat, holy hour, prayer. Retreats are a great contribution and are part of the essence of the spiritual life.
- Rather than looking for other means, it is a question of keeping these and being faithful to them.
- To be accompanied through spiritual direction

Responses to On-going Formation in Community

- We ask ourselves, Is it necessary to create it? We believe that the Reconciliation Committee can be the liaison in these situations
- Awareness of the confrere / personal responsibility
- It is a plan emphasized during the process of accompaniment and mentorship, but testimony of life is important
- Observing paragraph #33 of the Constitutions should be sufficient to improve the quality of relations among the confreres. If we make demands of ourselves, the need for someone to place demands on us is lessened. Being attentive to the needs of the confreres implies that I act on his behalf.
- With respect to the question: Could a team be established that will afford opportunities for developing the necessary tools to respond to our brother's needs and become a resource for the process of mutual accompaniment in a more efficient way? The group's answer was that it is not a question of creating more commissions, but to let what we have function. An example is mentorship which is an opportunity to build community and to accompany someone that needs it.
- Comments were made about bad experiences resulting from refusing to be accompanied. One must be willing to be accompanied and welcome help

Responses for discernment of leadership

- This implies a first moment of initial superficial knowledge and a second moment of deeper knowledge.
- Gifts that should accompany leadership in the congregation: being bilingual, understanding of cultural realities, comprehensive overview / present and future, determinative leadership in decision making having to do with the wellbeing of the community and its members, multicultural sensitivity, willing to listen and respect one's needs, that opinions be translated, not interpreted.
- The fact that that all needs, ideas and opinions have to be translated into another language makes them lose their initial intention and together with the process of selection and discrimination it ends up eliminating aspects that were the fruit of discernment and reflection of the individual that brought the matter up. Must be bilingual
- Given the constant cultural growth and diversification of our community, there is a need for a mechanism for leadership that can respond to this reality, it is becoming indispensable.
- We need to create a system of discernment and choose the capable people to exercise the type of leadership we need directed to being faithful to our charism. It is important to open our minds and make ourselves available so as to identify and use the resources in our confreres
- This can be a moment of growth in the self appreciation and self esteem of each member, for that creates self esteem for the community
- (Modify the Chapter legislation according to the needs that are manifested)
- That an individual's experience be taken into consideration, that it reflect maturity and the ability to acknowledge the diverse cultures
- To discern starting with prayer, pray for light as we have been doing
- That the person be able to join wills, be an intermediary, listen and direct

Information of the region

- The novitiate will move to Holy Trinity next year. Plans for space are being laid
- Father Eliezer is coming to this region, exercising his ministry in Chimalhuacán. Father Clervil and Edwin have been reassigned.
- The parish of Niño Jesús will be divided on 6 March, 2015
- Next regional meeting will be Friday, 23 October, 2015 in Iztapalapa, 9 AM