

The Second Confrontation

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You are a cursillista. You are "de colores".

I am sure that this week you have already attended your team reunion. And no doubt when *meditation* was called out, you answered promptly with a heart filled with satisfaction: "fulfilled". Well done. God is proud of you.

I also know that in the last few days somebody has approached you requesting some palanca for a new cursillista. And always an apostle you responded generously. Again you did well. And again Christ smiled approvingly at you.

You heard it several times in the Cursillo: "Now that we are tired and precisely because of that our prayers are more meritorious we are going to pray a little more".... Today Christ is asking you to make another meditation and to offer another palanca.

Do you remember your confrontation.... when, face to face with Christ, you listened and talked to Him?.... Those were wonderful moments, perhaps the most wonderful moments of your life.... Brother, today Christ is inviting you to another confrontation.

Let us go back to the Cursillo House. You are again in the rollo room. The Spiritual Director is delivering that long rollo on the Sac-

raments. He is now talking about the Eucharist. He is telling you about the *craziness* of Christ's love for you... When He had done everything that could be done for you, He still did something else... He gave Himself to you as food for your soul... With a lump in your throat and perhaps tears in your eyes you thought of how ungrateful you had been to Him, how abandoned the tabernacle was, how rarely you knelt at the communion rail... And then you looked up, and there, in front of you, you saw that *surrender sign*... You had seen it before; but this time it was like an arrow shot straight into your heart... And you surrendered... Then you stood up, and silently, slowly, your head bent in meditation, you walked to the chapel...

Let us take that short and momentous walk again. Let us enter the chapel once more and kneel in front of the altar. You introduce yourself in the Cursillo way: *Brother....; Cursillo.... No....* Christ is smiling at you as He did on your first confrontation. Don't you hear Him tell you how happy He is to see you again? Look up at Him, and tell Him about yourself. Pour out your heart to Him. Talk to Him as you did the first time you met Him.

You made the Cursillo; and in the Cursillo you met Christ, you met yourself, and you met your brethren, Christ's brothers and sisters. You entered the Post-Cursillo full of enthusiasm, hope and plans for the future. And ever since you have tried to live up to the expectations of the Fourth Day.

But perhaps you do not understand everything about the Cursillo. Perhaps in your Post-Cursillo you have come across obstacles and difficulties that you did not expect to find. Perhaps there are doubts in your mind about things that in those three happy days of the Cursillo seemed so clear and easy to you....

Christ is in the tabernacle to listen to you, to advise you, to teach you....

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How are you, as a cursillista, fulfilling the duties of your profession? You know, a cursillista, like everybody else, needs a profession, has to earn a living. Yet, I know some cursillistas who, carried away

by an excess of enthusiasm for the Cursillo Movement, have forgotten that common-sense principle "duty before devotion".

And how has the Cursillo influenced your relations with your family, that family entrusted to you by God to take care of and lead to Him?

Cursillistas are church; but not a church by themselves. You belong to a parish. You are still a parishioner. And your parish priest even if he is not a cursillista—is the representative of God and the hierarchy.

You are an apostle, a soldier of Christ. And you know that in our spiritual battle to conquer the world, the secret and ultimate weapon is a life of intimate union with God. If your action is to be more than just noise it has to rest upon the unshakable foundation of a solid spiritual life. How is your Service Sheet?

How about you and your fellow cursillistas? The task attempted by the Cursillo Movement is a gigantic one. Your brothers need your cooperation. The Cursillo-needs you; and so does the Church.

There are others who are not cursillistas, but who individually or as members of religious associations are engaged in apostolic work. They are your brothers, not your competitors. Are you ready to make common cause with them?

There is also the general public, the people who have not made the Cursillo, but who talk about it and judge it by what they see in the cursillistas. What do they say when they see you?

The Cursillo lasts three days. The Fourth Day—the Post-Cursillo—has no end. It goes on for life. They made it very clear to you that it was not worthwhile to make the Cursillo unless you were ready to pay all the attention you could to the Post-Cursillo. Are you faithful to your weekly reunion and ultreya?

Do you remember that rollo entitled *Study*? You were told that you had to study your religion in order to understand, love and practice it. You certainly did a lot of studying in the Cursillo. And you learned many things. But three days are not enough to learn everything. Your study is expected to continue in the Post-Cursillo.

You want everybody to make the Cursillo. Good! The Cursillo is a wonderful way to get close to Christ. But do you want it to the extent that you lose your patience with or despise those who refuse to follow your suggestion? Remember: The Cursillo is a wonderful way; but it is *not* the *only* way. . . .

I understand that you would like to be a *rollista*; but you don't know how to go about it or what it takes to be one. Some of your brothers are ready to help you. Or perhaps you are already a leader in the Cursillo Movement. Excellent! But tell me: do you give *the* Cursillo, or *your own* Cursillo? True cursillistas believe that the Cursillo is a movement officially approved by the Church, by their bishop; and that it is supposed to be conducted under the supervision and direction of the hierarchy.

I do not want to think of it; but are you by any chance a fallen-away cursillista? Then you really need a second confrontation. Let us pray that it brings back to you that sanctifying and actual grace that so completely captivated your soul when its meaning was explained to you in the Cursillo. If you are not, my congratulations. By the way: what is your attitude towards those brothers of yours who have forgotten that they are cursillistas?

You are "de colores". I do hope that you really understand the full meaning of this beautiful motto. I always see a "de colores" sticker on the windshield of your car; and everytime I see it a question comes to my mind: is your soul always "de colores"?

My son: Christ is addressing you from the tabernacle it seems that there are many things that you and I have to talk about. . . . However, it is getting late, and you are tired. Your knees are trembling, though your heart is in flames. We shall continue this second confrontation some other time. . . . Then I shall speak to you, calm your anxieties, give an answer to your questions and a solution to your problems. . . . Go in peace and rest. . . . De colores!