



CONSEJO EPISCOPAL LATINOAMERICANO
DEPARTAMENTO DE FAMILIA Y VIDA
SECCIÓN JUVENTUD

January 6, 2010

Dear young people,

Jesus has a life-giving message for you. He is our best friend who never lets us down, who has words of new life and stands by our side, as long as we accept him in our life. All that is required is for each of you to be ready to meet him and hear his message, so that your life may have new energy and meaning in the midst of the many problems we face today.

When the Latin American Bishops gathered in Aparecida, Brazil in 2007, they called us to become authentic disciples and missionaries of the Lord of Life, and to carry out a Great Continental Mission in which we bring the Good News to our whole continent.

For this reason it is a joy to present to you the Biblical Mission for Youth and Young Adults, "God's Word Comes to Life in Young People." It is a great gift from God and a source of much hope for the young, thanks to the thousands of young missionaries who will be taking action throughout our American Continent.

For those who suffer, who feel lost or lonely, who have given up on life... Jesus offers a gift of love and hope. It is a gift that will be poured out over you, a blessing that will seal you for life. This Biblical Mission is an opportunity to grow in faith, to get to know Jesus better, and to make friends who will accompany you on the journey through life. Believe me, it is a privilege to be the recipient of such a magnificent gift. Come and receive the gift of Jesus!

For those who feel a burning desire in their heart to be a light and support to their less fortunate peers, this Biblical Mission provides a beautiful opportunity to do so. Jesus is calling all young people who feel the urgency to be disciples and prophets of the reign of God, to continue his saving mission in this moment of history. With Jesus, you can help to create a better world. Come and take action!

Come with all of your dreams, with confidence that Jesus will find you on the way, and just like the disciples who walked with him on the road to Emmaus, he will explain the Scriptures to you and reveal his message of salvation. Come walk side-by-side with the Master, he is the way, the truth, and the life.

May you receive with this letter my heartfelt greeting and blessing,

Mons. Mariano José Parra Sandoval
Bishop of Guayana City, Venezuela
Bishop in Charge of the Office for Young People at CELAM