**RESPONSE**

Resonances of the V Conversations of Cala Figuera

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Saturday, March 8, 2025, Mt Assisi, Lemont, IL

15 mins

**Response** by Father Teodoro Suau

The fourth presentation given in Cala Figuera was the one given Father Teodoro Suau titled Response. According to the Webster dictionary, response is something that constitutes a reply or reaction. Father Suau was not talking about a specific response that each of us could give to God in a particular instance, nor the one Christ gave to all humanity. He was referring to the response that God gives us through what happens in our lives. To be more specific, the response that God gives us for our entire life on earth, with its successes and mistakes. This is really the complete response we give to God. It is not always the right response, but we have no other. It is about not deceiving ourselves, in order to know whether we do good or evil. The response that God gives us through life is more difficult to understand than the Gospel itself; in fact, the Good News was given to us to help us understand life and to see God in it and we must share it, make everyone know that God loves us.

The presentation illustrated what is and is not a response from God. Some will say that even a speck of dust is a response, and others that it is not; some that it is only a response if it resonates with our soul, and others that it is not; that the response comes unexpectedly, others by waiting for it or that it comes by asking for it. Let the speaker give us their vision of what is and is not a response from God, the one given to each of us individually, and the one given to us as a community through the life we share. Capturing the voice of God in Creation requires a demand. It does not matter where we capture it: in light, laughter, or tears, in luck, misfortune, or in the existence of a friend. It requires gratitude, action, forgiveness, hope... The responses God offers us through life are continuous, an infinity of small and large responses to each of us. Father Suau mentioned that men is by nature someone who generates questions.

Humans are beings that are always under construction. He also mentioned that a good evangelizer is someone who tells everyone what makes him or her happy.

Father spoke of the questions men asked themselves in the past as examples: What should I learn? What should I expect? What should I do? What is a human being? He mentioned that the questions have changed in the modern world to: Will I have work tomorrow? Will my kids get hooked on drugs? How long will my marriage last? What is the future for my kids? Grandkids? Will a new war begin? Father Suau told us that men and women must seek open and honest discussions. These can be generated if one has a humble attitude towards others. For instance, I am not always right, all of you can teach me something, or what can I do so that utilizing my talents and those that you have, will get us to generate something much better.

Let us be aware that as we respond to life, life responds to us. Let us have expectations without frustration. Let us surrender and be grateful for what we live as life gives it to us. Let us be grateful for what we give, what we do, and how we are. And let us help others discover God in their lives. The responses from God, similar in appearance, are unique to each person. There is only one universal response, the first and last response: Love.