



# Movimiento de Cursillo de Cristiandad de la Región 5 de los Estados Unidos

CRISTO - PERSONA - AMISTAD

## TRUTH

### Resonances of the V Conversations of Cala Figuera

*By Aida Ceja*

*Spanish language, Diocese of Rockford Cursillo*

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

15 mins

Good morning, everyone. My name is Aida Ceja. I'm here to share a recap of Truth by Susana Castello. My attention was immediately captured by the statement, "We are searching for the truth of Christ and sometimes we get lost in the search, but we are created in the image of God and that is our Truth."

This resonates with all of us because at times, we all find ourselves looking for the truth..... Big questions like, WHAT IS THE TRUTH? starts brewing in our brain. Webster's dictionary stated the truth is in accordance with fact or reality. Which doesn't answer the big question of what truth really is. This leaves us to do some work.

Susana walked us through the different ways we get our Truths. It would be beneficial for us to reflect on the messages we receive every day through different sources. In recent years, our information is coming from media outlets. These media outlets are showing us THEIR truth. I know it has happened to all of us that we are searching for a food recipe and we go online, but we encounter multiple recipes with different ingredients. Leaving us to make the ultimate decision of what would be best for our dish. The same applies to larger topics like Political truths, ecological, spiritual...commercial. Some may contain some truth, but even so, they only show us part of a greater truth. By us taking the time to reflect, it's an act of truth.

I know it's hard for us these days not to go with the fastest and easiest truths we see and hear throughout our days. It's up to us to really pay attention where we're getting our facts. Studying allows us to get to the truth and, most importantly, to communicate. This is highly important because it will allow us to make connections with people all around the world, who may bring different aspects of thinking that we have never heard of. For example, if we take the perspective of an Atheist, they base their truth on facts. They want to know the who, what, when, where, and why. Any person, however, will be able to agree that love is a reality, but not everyone will think that it is the great truth. This means that we need to stop being selfish and judge others. It's easy for us to start judging others when we don't take into consideration what is



## Movimiento de Cursillo de Cristiandad de la Región 5 de los Estados Unidos

### CRISTO - PERSONA - AMISTAD

happening with that person. We must love the people around us. We want to avoid getting lost in the search for the truth. Characteristics like envy, ignorance, or being judgmental take us away from the truth. We don't want to take the life away from people, instead we want to allow them to get closer to feeling the love of Jesus. If we reflect on the adulterous woman, Jesus showed her mercy. He told the people if they are sin free to throw the first rock, but nobody was able to do it. The only one without sin was Jesus. Technically, he would have been able to throw the stone, but he chose not to. He told her to leave and not to sin again. Jesus showed that women love and mercy even though he knew that she sinned. We can apply this to our everyday life. When we know someone did us wrong, we must show them the same love that Jesus shows us. Redirection to the path of truth can be simple, all we need to do is repentance. This is where the Sacrament of Reconciliation is important. Allowing us to gain the sanctifying grace once again.

Of course it can happen to us that we search for the Truth in places where we won't be able to find it. The truth is in the Sacred Scripture. We must be able to get to know each other to love each other. This can be applied to getting to know Jesus, our friend. The more that we know him, the more we love him.

The first night of Cursillo we take time to reflect on the movie of our life. This is the truth because there is no way of changing our lives. We meet someone we know and someone we don't recognize, but they are the same person because it's us. Eduardo Bonnin guided by the Holy Spirit made us meet the first truth about ourselves. Remembering that Truth is love. First we have know each other to love each other. We must have recognition of our defects and our virtues. We can't run away from the person we are. We must take time to see ourselves through the eyes of Christ. He loves us because he created us in his likeness. He knows our truth and he still loves us. Can we think of anything bigger than this truth? The unconditional love he has for us.

Now what about our truth? We have to be witnesses of the truth. And most importantly live the truth with lots of love. Being able to evangelize the people around us, but by taking the one-on-one time to make an impact. Remembering that God is Love and that the fountain of the truth is the word of God. Scripture shows his love and plan for salvation. God our father sent us his son to show us how to love. Then Jesus died on the cross for all of our sins. Jesus, when talking about truth, told us "We would know the truth and the truth will make us free". For us this means that Jesus has released us from sin and darkness. This has an impact on our daily life because we



## Movimiento de Cursillo de Cristiandad de la Región 5 de los Estados Unidos

CRISTO - PERSONA - AMISTAD

have to live our truth, which means having a transparent life. Especially expressing love. Love has power to change hearts.

This piece of art was used to illustrate Truth by the presenter at the V Conversations of Cala Figuera



Art by Sandro Botticelli

**The Calumny of Apelles** is a painting by Sandro Botticelli, created around 1494-1495, based on a description of a lost work by the Greek painter Apelles. Its meaning and symbolism are deeply rooted in the allegory of injustice and slander.

### Meaning and Symbolism

1. **Allegory of Slander:** The scene represents the destructive power of slander and injustice, inspired by an anecdote from Apelles, who was falsely accused of



# Movimiento de Cursillo de Cristiandad de la Región 5 de los Estados Unidos

CRISTO - PERSONA - AMISTAD

treason by a rival at the court of Ptolemy IV.

## 2. The Characters and Their Symbolism:

- **King Midas:** Seated on the throne with donkey ears, he represents an unjust and easily influenced judge. His advisors, Ignorance and Suspicion, whisper in his ears, symbolizing how justice can be corrupted by rumors and prejudice.
- **Calumny (Slander):** A beautiful yet aggressive figure who drags the victim while being guided by Envy.
- **Envy:** A dark and emaciated character leading the scene, inciting the false accusation.
- **Deception and Fraud:** Two female figures who embellish Calumny, showing how lies can be disguised as truth.
- **Truth and Remorse:** On the far right, the naked Truth points to the heavens, indicating divine justice, while Remorse grieves, showing that conscience eventually recognizes the harm caused.

## Movement and Composition

Botticelli creates dramatic dynamism through the intertwining of characters and the tension in their expressions. The scene unfolds in a classical architectural setting, evoking antiquity and reinforcing the idea that slander is a persistent evil throughout history.

## Final Message

The painting warns about the dangers of manipulation and injustice, illustrating how truth can be temporarily obscured but will ultimately prevail. It is a deeply moralistic and philosophical work, in line with the intellectual context of the Renaissance.

Is there any particular aspect of the painting that interests you?