

God is love

*I will have mercy
and love you forever*

*Every mountain and hill
may disappear.
But I will always be kind
and merciful to you;
I won't break my agreement
to give your nation peace.*

... God promises will be always fulfilled

I will be with you

Vicenç: The beauty of creation is admirable, but there is a question that we all inevitably ask ourselves at some point. It is a question that is not easy or quickly answered, and that can cause at a certain point a barrier that keeps some people from believing.

We are talking about the presence of evil in the world. Why besides such a tangible beauty we can also see the consequences of famine, war, and injustice... why is there evil in the world? What is its first cause?

Joan Ferrer Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Girona, Doctor in Semitic Philology:The answer is the Eden story. It is what the theological tradition later called the original sin. It is a story that tries to give an answer to the mystery of evil that we all experience. And the story is an incredibly beautiful one...

In a beautiful and good world, an animal appears who speaks. Animals in the history don't speak. It's a symbol that tells us that evil appears when we listen to other voices other than the voice of God who loves us. When we listen to other voices and we are seduced by them, then evil seizes us.

Greed, sloth, envy, pride, rage, gluttony, lust.

Vicenç: What is the original sin?, As women and men of today, we might ask ourselves if this doctrine is still sustainable. But there is an empirical reality that we can all experience, and it's not any type of theory – there is a contradiction within our being. On one hand we know what is good, and within ourselves we wish to be so.

But on the other hand, we feel an impulse to do the opposite, even if we know that with it we are going against what is good and against others...

The power of evil in a man's heart and in the history of humanity is undeniable. We find it difficult to find an internal balance at a personal level. We also find it hard to live in harmony with others, and even in harmony with nature.

And when life brings us a very very hard test, suspicion appears that everything is doomed to failure and that life has no sense whatsoever.

What is God's answer to this uneasiness in the human heart? It is not a theory or an ideology. God's answer is a person: Jesus Christ.

This is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

I Believe

CHAPTER 2

"Believing in Jesus Christ"

Fr. Armand Puig Dean of the Theology Faculty of Catalonia: Jesus really existed. We know this from Roman sources. More specifically through Tacitus, Suetonius, also Pliny...we also know it through Jewish sources like Flavius Josephus...we know it through Hellenistic authors, Syriac in this case, such as Mara BerSerapion... we know this from ancient sources, and obviously, we also know it from the New Testament – from the 4 Gospels: documents from the 1st Century which explain and reinforce Jesus' historical existence.

Jesus is no invention. Jesus is a man who was born and who died on this Earth.

Off Screen Woman: "Jesus died because of our sins of today, and he has also been resurrected to redeem our present day lives".

Carmina Dancer and actress: He is the one who gives me sense and plenitude.

He is offering me His mercy, His forgiveness, His goodness, His peace...and in fact, He loves me as I am, with my infidelities, my faults – and I have faults...but the truth is that I am really happy, and I am not afraid. I am not afraid of the present or the future, because I know that I am in good hands.

Off Screen Woman: "God has become man in order to open man's heart and make him fully capable of having a relationship with God and with others".

Joan Civil engineer: For me, in the end, faith has a main axis: the discovery of the character of Jesus Christ -- Jesus, that men by what He preached and in what He did you really discover what it is that really makes life worth living for. To look after the poor, to look after those who are on the margins of society ... by discovering this you will start to see what God wants of mankind.

That which is worth living for

Ramón School headmaster: He is a role model – a role model for being a person. I am convinced that if everybody had the intention of getting closer to living as He did things in our society would be much better.

He is a model person.

Off Screen Woman: "Do not be afraid. I am announcing the Good Word that will bring great joy to the world . Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord".

Off Screen Man: "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you".

Joan Carles Industrial Engineer and Farmer: It hasn't been that long since I really believed in that Man.

But then I realized that I was leaving an important part out...it's true that leaders are admirable, but they don't transform you. And it was, for example, through an "Alpha Course" where I had the opportunity to take the next step. This was to have a relationship with this great Man. So through doing that, I discovered how to turn the theory into practice. A personal relationship with Jesus brings you to believe in God, and then everything else comes after that.

Fr. Joaquim Priest and mathematician: Until that moment, faith for me was like a heavy arduous duty... I only thought about the things that I did wrong. But I discovered a different God than the one I had known when I was young.

From then on, it was about "living well". "Living well" in the sense of living for others. Which does mean a life of sacrifice of sorts...but not sacrifice really -- it is more like a life where you forget about oneself. Not because it is difficult, or because you try hard or because it is commendable, but because you just can't bring yourself to do anything else...because to know Jesus Christ, it is so attractive to follow Him that you cannot do anything else but live for others.

Pau Tarruell Musician and actor: Test a few phrases from the Gospel to see if they are true:

For example, if you have a conflict with someone, don't go to court. If somebody steals something from you, give that person something else, don't make them pay it back. I welcome everyone to try this to experience that the Truth is in the Word of Jesus. And that this word is alive today! It is not something that happened 2,000 years ago. It is continuously happening. And everything that seems to be so complicated to sort out in your life, to you who are listening to me; it can radically change the rest of your life, only by saying yes to