



## Word Bearing Fruit in THE Lives OF others... AND OURS

*But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance. (Luke 8:15)*

In today's world of dark headlines, we members of the Society choose to respond to the call to alleviate the sufferings of and advocate just conditions for those around us. The lives of our neighbours in need are less immutable, and much more fragile than vast majority of humanity may pay attention to. Capable of feeling compassion at their pleas for help and sharing this value with other Vincentians across the world through time and talents, we feel the need - moral and spiritual - to help the least of our brothers and sisters, just as Jesus modelled and asked us all.

Let us re-commit ourselves to the centrality of the Mission. By generosity and patience in our joyful response to His love, and good stewardships of gifts He has entrusted, may the Word of God continue to come alive and bear fruit in our and other people's lives.

### Reflection Questions

1. Halfway-through the year, what are ways you look forward to contributing more deeply to the ideals of the Society?
2. How can you much better care for and use those gifts to make them more fruitful? Has anything restrained you from giving yourself fully to the Society, including taking on leadership roles?

**Let us pray...** All-loving God, may Your providence renew our gift of good heart to wholly embrace and share the Word, bringing comfort and joy to those most needy. Grant our neighbours in need light, inspiration and strength to find purpose and meanings to their daily tribulations. Amen.

*Jose I. Torres, National Spirituality Committee Chair*

## Restored by Love... Called to Serve!

*Note: This was also used by the National Council members at the March 2026 board meeting.*

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." (John 21 15:17)*

In this moving exchange, Jesus gently restores Peter after his threefold denial. By asking three times, "Do you love me?" Jesus not only offers forgiveness but also reaffirms Peter's purpose. Each question and command—Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my sheep—reminds us that love for Christ is shown through care for others. Jesus doesn't dwell on Peter's failure but calls him forward into mission. Like Peter, we too may have turned from Jesus—seeking our own will and also justifying our ways. Yet, Christ meets us where we are, offering grace, purpose, and a call to return—not to shame, but to service.

## Reflection Questions

1. Do you recognize moments where you've denied or drifted away from Jesus—and how might He be calling you back today?
2. How can your love for Christ be expressed in caring for others around you?

**Let us pray...** Lord Jesus, thank you for your mercy that meets us in our weakness. Just as you restored Peter, restore us when we fall. Help us to hear your voice asking, "Do you love me?" and give us the courage to answer with our lives. Teach us to feed your sheep by serving others with compassion and faithfulness. Amen.

*Willis Langford, Spiritual Facilitator, St. Mary's Conference, Brampton, ON*

---

For those interested in contributing spiritual reflections, please email [jose.torres@rogers.com](mailto:jose.torres@rogers.com). Also, for reflections that may be used in your group meeting's spirituality segment, please check out: [Monthly Reflections - Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - National Council of Canada](#)