VOCATIONAL
DISCERNMENT

SECULAR INSTITUTE
LAY SERVANTS OF JESUS CHRIST PRIEST

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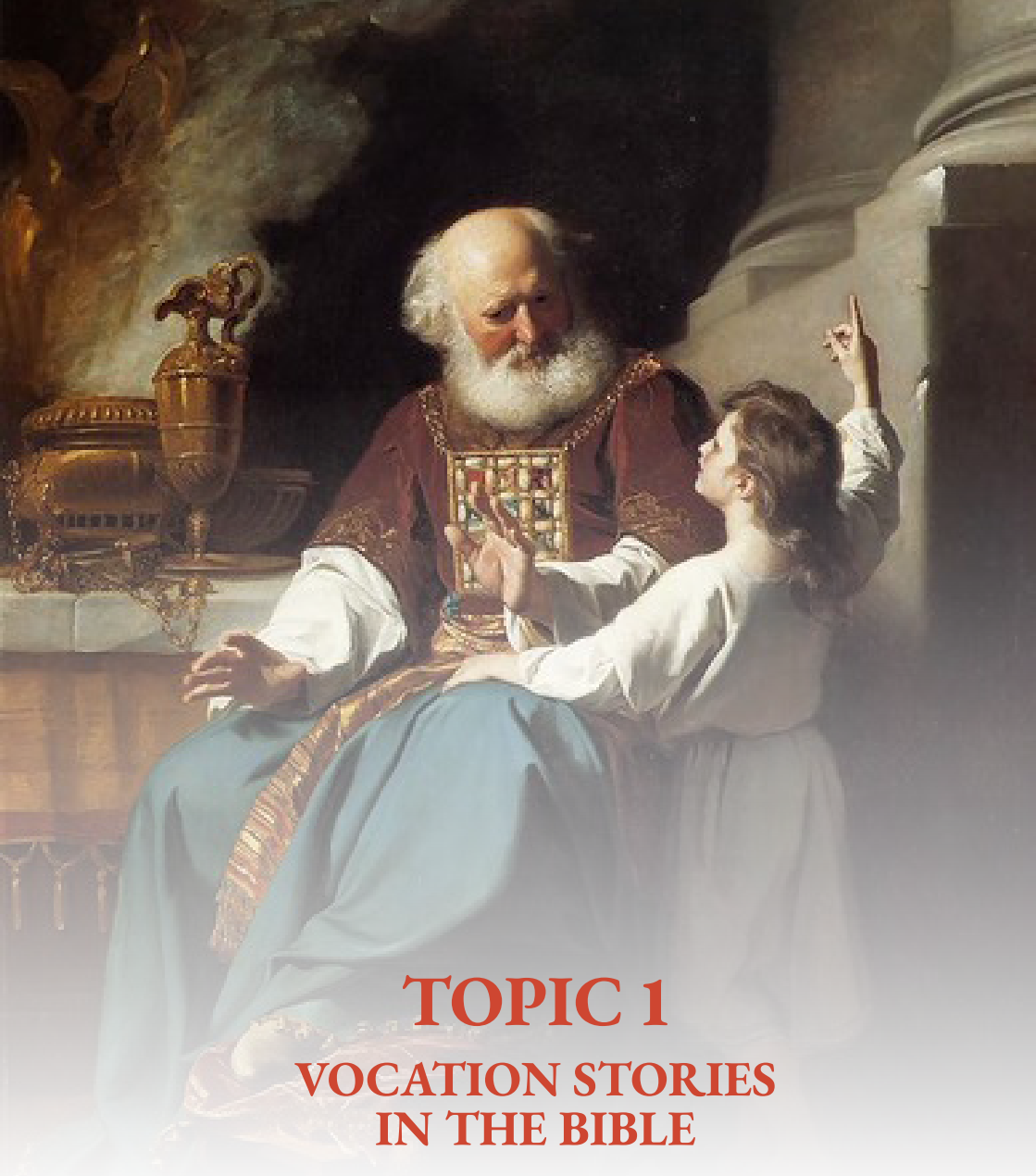

TOPIC 1

VOCATION STORIES IN THE BIBLE

METHODOLOGY

Guide to study the texts personally:

1. Read the text and underline the ideas you want to highlight or the doubts that arise. Take note of them.

2. Bring to prayer the underlined ideas that you would highlight and the doubts about the text. Explain what calls you feel God is making to you for your daily life.

3. What commitment emerges from these calls? How can you bring them to life? Where do you find resistance?

Presentation of the questions worked on to the person in charge of the formation process.

VOCATION STORIES IN THE BIBLE

Abraham:	Gén 12,1-5
Moses:	Ex 3, 1-4,17
Gideon:	Jue 6,1-24
Samuel:	1 Sam 3, 1-20
Isaiah:	Is 6,1-13
Jeremiah:	Jer 1,4-19
Ezekiel:	Ez 1-3
Amos:	Am 7, 10-17
Elisha:	1 Re 19, 19-21
Judith:	Jud 8-9
Pablo:	Gál 1,12-17; 2,20
First disciples:	Mc 1,16-20
The Twelve:	Mc 3,13-19
The rich man:	Mc 10,17-29
Mary:	Lc 1,26-38
They want to follow him:	Lc 9,57-62
Paul (according to Acts):	Hch 9,1-30
The Hellenistic ministers:	Hch 6, 1-7.
John's disciples:	Jn 1, 35-51

We present a method of prayer, a model to follow. And in the different texts that follow, continue this model by completing it with the reading of the text, studying it and praying it afterwards. It is studied by reading the notes and introductions of the books to which each text belongs that are in the same bible.

METHOD FOR STUDYING AND PRAYING THE VOCATION

1. **Putting myself in God presence:** The familiar God, who knows me and whom I know...
2. **Request:** That I feel how God wants to meet me at this moment in my life.
3. **Composition of place:** I imagine the scene and get into it.
4. **I read the text carefully**, letting my heart rest on what catches my attention. Identification with the character, I get into the situation, I imagine myself there, with the feelings, I see God as he comes to meet him, how God always surprises, how to approach, accept...
    - What have been my experiences of personal encounter with God?
    - Through what symbols, facts, situations or faces did he come to meet me?
    - Here and now, how does God meet me?
    - How is it surprising me? What does it mean to me to respond to him?
5. **A dialogue of friendship with God** that comes to meet me.

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: ABRAHAM GEN 12:1-5

Putting myself in God's presence:

Petition:

Place composition: I place myself in the scene when God intervenes in Abraham's life. I try to listen to his words, his gestures and make Abraham's decision my own.

*Gen 12:1-9 I read the story.

- I identify with Abraham... Where do I stand? Why do I identify myself that way?
- Do I feel represented in his decision, in Abraham's faith, in leaving everything?
- Throughout my life, how has God come to meet me?
- Here and now: how does God come to meet me?; what does he say to me?; what attitudes of mine hinder this encounter?; what do I discover about God's way of being?

Thanksgiving to Finish:

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: Moses (EX 3-4:17)

To put myself in the presence of God:

Petition:

Composition of place:

- Ex. 3:1-12: Moses and the burning bush. I read the text carefully, letting my heart rest on what catches my attention.
- What have been my experiences of personal encounter with God? Through what symbols, facts, situations or faces did he come to meet me?
- Here and now, how does God meet me?
  - 1. How is it surprising me?
  - 2. What does it mean for me to take off my sandals?

To conclude:

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: ELIJAH (1 Kings 19:1-15)

Putting myself in God's presence:

Petition:

Composition of place:

- 1 Kings 19:1-15. I read the story. I do it slowly, reread it and try to imagine the scene.
- I identify with Elias... Where do I place myself? Why do I identify myself that way?
- Do I feel represented in fear, flight, the desire for death or confinement in a cave...?

- Throughout my life, how has God come to meet me?
    - In the walking food?
    - In the gentle breeze...?
- Here and now: how does God meet me?; What do you tell me?; What attitudes of mine make this encounter difficult? What do I discover about God's way of being?

To conclude:

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: 1 Sam 3:1-20

Putting myself in God's presence:

Petition:

Composition of place:

1 Sam 3:1-20: I read the story. I do it slowly, reread it and try to imagine the scene.

*What have been my experiences of personal encounter with God? Through what symbols, facts, situations or faces did he come to meet me?

- Here and now, how does God meet me? How is it surprising me?

To conclude:

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: Mary Lk 1:26-38

Putting myself in God's presence

Petition:

Composition of place:

* Lk 1:26-38: I read the story. I do it slowly, reread it and try to imagine the scene.

- Here and now: how does God meet me?; What do you tell me?; What attitudes of mine make this encounter difficult? What do I discover about God's way of being?

To conclude: Placed in the place that most identifies me with Mary, I speak with God and ask what God has shown me to ask for...

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: Following Jesus Lk 9:57-62

Putting myself in God's presence

Petition:

Composition of place:

* Lk 9:57-62: I read the story. I do it slowly, reread it and try to imagine the scene.

*What have been my experiences of personal encounter with Jesus? Through what symbols, facts, situations or faces did he come to meet me?

- Here and now: how does God come to meet me?; what does he say to me?; what attitudes of mine hinder this encounter?; what do I discover about God's way of being?

To conclude:

THE ENCOUNTER WITH GOD: St. Paul Gal 1:11-17.2,20

Putting myself in God's presence

Petition:

Composition of place:

* Gal 1:11-17. 2:20: I read the story carefully.

*What have been my experiences of personal encounter with Jesus? Through what symbols, facts, situations or faces did he come to meet me?

- Here and now: how does God come to meet me?; what does he say to me?; what attitudes of mine hinder this encounter?; what do I discover about God's way of being?

To conclude: