

## ABCs of Salvatorian Life, Vol. II



### **WORD OF GOD**

*Be a true apostle of Jesus Christ. Do not rest until you have carried the word of God to all corners of the earth. Be a true herald of the Most High!*

[Father Jordan, *Spiritual Diary*, I/182]

*So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it.*

[Isaiah 55:11]

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From the time he was a student, Francis Jordan tried to know Jesus Christ by meditating on the Scriptures. The Bible was the book of his life. Through the Word of God, he started becoming acquainted with Jesus and gradually rooted his life in the Gospel's message. ... In Salvatorian spirituality, therefore, Scripture is the irreplaceable nourishment we need to achieve an intimate knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Word of God who became flesh. He is the living Word of God that Salvatorian men and women bring to the world through their words and gestures.

[Fr. Milton Zonta, SDS, "Francis Jordan and His Relationship with Jesus Christ," *Salvatorian Key Elements*, Part 6, p. 7. (Online only.)]

It is clear to me that our spirituality must be biblically based if it is to be true to its roots. I find it fascinating how Father Jordan's personal life was permeated by Scripture despite the Council of Trent's inspired fear that still dominated the Roman Catholic Church in the 19th Century. ... He drank deeply from the well of Scripture for he understood that there he would meet the One he desired to know fully and make known throughout the world.

[Sr. Carol Thresher, SDS, "Toward a Wholistic Salvatorian Spirituality: Knowing the One True God and Jesus Christ." *Contributions on Salvatorian History, Charism, and Spirituality*, Vol. 2, p. 14]

Rev. Mother loved to read Sacred Scripture, especially the New Testament, and often quoted appropriate words of the Saviour.

[Mother Liboria (Elisabeth) Hansknecht, SDS, *Memories of Mary of the Apostles*, p. 192]

She [Rev. Mother] held Sacred Scripture in great honour and would never have misused a word of the same in jest nor would she have condoned this.

[From a Sister, name unknown (2), *Memories of Mary of the Apostles*, p. 337]

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### **Reflection Starters**

- Reflecting on the significance of Scripture in the lives of Father Jordan and Mother Mary, what role does the word of God have in my life as a Salvatorian?
- How are we Salvatorians called to "make the eternal truths of the Word of God and our Faith accessible to persons of any culture, race, ethnic group, social class, nationality and religion" (*Charter of the Salvatorian Family*, no. 8.c.)?

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### **For Further Reading**

1. Father Jordan, *Spiritual Diary*, I/68.
2. Fr. Arno Boesing, SDS, "Our Biblical Roots," *Salvatorian Key Elements*, Part 2, pp. 11-26.