**They might be with him and he might send them**

**FRIDAY JANUARY 22 (Mk 3, 13-19)**

Why are the Apostles called to be with Jesus? To hear what He says and see what he does, how he says it and how he does it. Tomorrow they will be the continuers of his mission of salvation. Timothy listens and sees what and how the Apostle Paul lives the mission of salvation. He is urged to do the same: “But understand this: there will be terrifying times in the last days. People will be self-centred and lovers of money, proud, haughty, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, irreligious, callous, implacable, slanderous, licentious, brutal, hating what is good, traitors, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, as they make a pretense of religion but deny its power. Reject them. For some of these slip into homes and make captives of women weighed down by sins, led by various desires, always trying to learn but never able to reach a knowledge of the truth. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so they also oppose the truth - people of depraved mind, unqualified in the faith. But they will not make further progress, for their foolishness will be plain to all, as it was with those two. You have followed my teaching, way of life, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, persecutions that I endured. Yet from all these things the Lord delivered me. In fact, all who want to live religiously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked people and charlatans will go from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But you, remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have known (the) sacred scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.” (2Tm 3,1-17). By observing we learn more than by listening. By seeing Christ crucified, nailed to the cross, and hearing about his crucifixion are not the same thing. This is why the Gospel must be shown alive in our body.

*He went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him. He appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) that they might be with him and he might send them forth to preach and to have authority to drive out demons: (he appointed the twelve:) Simon, whom he named Peter; James, son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James, whom he named Boanerges, that is, sons of thunder; Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddeus, Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.*

The Apostle John not only saw, heard, touched, tasted Christ Jesus. He also contemplated him in the Holy Spirit in the fullness of his mystery. His witness may be true: *“What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life - for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us - what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing this so that our joy may be complete.” (1Gv 1,1-4).* Whoever wants to carry out the mission of salvation must also know about Jesus’ way of breathing, the depths of His soul, the desires of His spirit. They must acquire Jesus’ own heart. This can happen through an uninterrupted frequentation with Him. As Jesus dwells in the bosom of the Father and walks among men, so too his disciple must dwell in his heart and walk among men. When there is detachment from Christ Jesus, there is detachment from His mission.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, let us always dwell in the heart of Christ.