

Look for the Lord, while He makes Himself available, Invoke Him, while He is near

Homily, 1st December, 2016

Is 55,6

father G. Paparone o.p.

The verse from the *Hallelujah* reminds us one more time of **the most authentic meaning of our faith**, especially in this time of Advent, which invites us to consider the beginning of our salvation.

Look for the Lord: on one side, we are invited to move from an intellectual, emotional, intentional point of view, we are invited to look for God's presence, His word, His wisdom, His help, more than any other thing that we might need.

Look for the Lord would also mean: do not live alone, do not plan your life without God, do not arrange just what is related to this world, but look for the Lord in everything you do. For this reason, you are not told where, how and when; it is a clue, an invitation, an exhortation: **look for the Lord while He makes Himself available, this is what the Advent is about.**

Invoke Him while He is near: this is the second part of today's teaching: *the Lord makes Himself available, the Lord is near.*

We could also interpret the verse in the following way: the Lord is near you, He wants to give you His help, His light, His advice, His grace, He wants to give a new and full life.

He is near you!

He made Himself neighbour, He came down from Heaven to the Earth.

During the Advent we celebrate this free initiative from the previous grace of God.

He is there waiting.

Look for Him, come on!

Knock at His door, do not get tired!

Hurry up!

Here He is, the Lord is near, He makes Himself available.

Let's not make our life heavy with the problems of this world, on the contrary, let's try and make our life lighter with God's presence, because He wants to be found and wants to give us His presence and His help.

Be brave brothers!

Let's look for Him while He makes Himself available, let's invoke Him while He is near.

May the Lord be praised