

Glossary 2

12/17/2024 5:33 am EST

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COMMON PHRASES

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| Contemplative in action | At the end of his autobiography, which he dictated in the last year of his life, Ignatius admitted that since he began to serve God, 'I had always grown in devotion, that is, ease in finding God; and no more than ever in his whole life. Every time, any hour, that I wished to find God, he found him'. Nadal points out the characteristics of Ignatius' prayer: '..... in all things, actions and conversations he perceived and contemplated the presence of God and had an affection for spiritual things, being contemplative even while in action – a matter which he customarily explained by saying 'God must be found in all things'. |
| Friends of the Lord | The description that the first companions gave themselves when they were discerning the direction of their common life together. |
| Helping souls | This is one of the most frequent expressions to be found in Ignatius' writings. By 'soul' Ignatius meant the whole person, so that people could be helped by providing food for the body, learning for the mind or provision of the sacraments. |
| Id quod volo | Ignatius stressed that, in coming to prayer one should articulate 'that which I desire'. Identifying one's dreams and desires was one of the so-called Foundational Ignatian Insights . |
| Men and women for others | The phrase first appears (in a non-inclusive form) in Pedro Arrupe's letter to the international conference in Valencia (1973) where he exhorted all alumni to use their gifts and talents in the service of others. |
| Our way of proceeding | This phrase of Ignatius is found in many early documents referring to the 'way things are done' with an Ignatian mind-set or approach which distinguishes an Ignatian culture or ethos from others. |
| Praise, reverence and serve | A phrase common to all Ignatius' writings which describes the response of the creature to the creator and indeed to fellow human beings where God might also be discovered. |
| Service of faith and the promotion of justice | The 32 nd General Congregation of the Society of Jesus (1975) set out the Society's mission today in the strongest terms: 'The mission of the Society of Jesus today is the service of faith, of which the promotion of justice is an absolute requirement. For reconciliation with God demands the reconciliation of people with one another' (No 48). |

Compiled by the Education
Office

The glossary provides a definition for the common phrases employed within the Society of Jesus.

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