

FROM FR. JASON



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When I was 26 years old, I entered a big crisis. Even though I had grown up in the Catholic Church, went to Catholic school from 1st through 12th grade, went to Sunday Mass regularly, and had been volunteering for several years with a group of other young adults to help my parish's Youth Minister and the high school ministry she led, I was discovering more and more that I was not a Christian and I did not have Faith. I suffered because the more I learned about the Church and God, the more I had to hide my mistakes and sins until I was just acting the part, wanting people to think that I was happy and good. But that was all it was, acting. I had no answer for suffering, my own nor that of others. I had a desire to leave sins behind but was unable to do it with my own strength. I had no memorable experiences of God acting in my life which left me wondering if He even existed. I felt that life was just one effort after another to try to be happy. I had studied in college, started a career in biotechnology, and had the affections of my family, friends, coworkers, and girlfriends. I was doing everything the world said should make me happy, but I was miserable and full of fear.

Hidden behind a mask of goodness and piety, I was angry, afraid, and full of doubts. I was lost. Today, I am at peace with myself and others, I have reconciled with my history and am happy to be a priest and to give my life serving you. I owe all of this to a series of talks I was willing to listen to because of the crisis I was in. God came to seek me out and saved me. What St. Paul says is true: "God chose to save the world through the foolishness of the preaching."

That is why he sent his apostles, very poor people, to announce that Christ is risen! He is alive! He loves you as you are and wants to communicate the power of the Resurrection to you! He has an answer to the questions and sufferings of your life. Courage! God can do the impossible! Come and listen. Everyone is invited. Even people you may know that are far away from God and the Church. We start on September 30th and meet Mondays and Thursdays at 8 pm in the McCarthy Center.

Peace,