



Day 9 Report Wednesday 7th August

Our grace for today was: Dear God bring to our minds the most precious insights received during this assembly and give us the passion and freedom to keep them alive in our hearts.

The Philippine delegation led us in an imaginative contemplation of Mark 7: 31-37 (Jesus cures the deaf man). Our prayer that our ears may be opened to hear /listen so that we can speak clearly.

After Elaine, the Process Guide had updated the assembly on the movements and progress, we moved to 1st input for the morning. Mauricio Lopez from Mexico and member of the World ExCo talked about International Apostolic work and Advocacy in CLC. He spoke about the Amazon project, a concrete example of the potential of CLC apostolic work at international level. The Amazon rainforest reminds us that at CLC we really are one Apostolic body, our body is the world: the daily choices we make and what we do in one part of the body affect our community in other parts of that same world body.

The writing group presented the draft of the official assembly document. We took time to read & share first thoughts. This was followed by a presentation from the World ExCo of the skeleton framework, based on feedback from yesterday evenings groups

The assembly then went into regional /sub-regional sharing groups to discuss these important documents. These group situations are excellent examples of CLC operating in a unique and distinctly CLC way: a large international group (such as the Europe region with 21 languages) comes together in a room; after some spontaneous discussion the large group gradually disperses into a small number of language groups, a facilitator for each group somehow emerges and gradually authentic CLC sharing takes place where we listen and share what we think & feel about the documents. So you can see, whether you are in a CLC group in Liverpool, Leamington Spa, London, or Lebanon, the same essential CLC sharing process is taking place!

After another delicious Lebanese lunch, each group gave feedback one by one to the whole assembly, so that the text could be edited for a final draft. Again, these feedback sessions reflect our international richness, with input from all continents. This process means that everyone gets to feed into the final document and has the opportunity to have their voice heard. Be assured when you read the final document, that every word has been scrutinised and reflected on carefully and in great depth by every single member of the World Assembly here in Lebanon!

The final item on the programme was the voting over proposed amendments to the General Norms and financial issues. The programme closed with Mass organised by the European Region.

This evening was rare in that our programme for the day finished after dinner at 9pm. This meant that we could relax, looking down the valley at the twinkling lights of Beirut in the distance whilst sipping Lebanese ‘Chateau Fakra’ red wine from the Bekaa Valley wine region. Cheers!

CLC England & Wales delegation