

LIVING THE “FIAT” OF JESUS AND MARY

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

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“Living the fiat” means saying a total, trusting “YES” to God’s will in our daily life. Specifically, living the “fiat” of Jesus and Mary refers to an intentional commitment – a deliberate, conscious pledge to pursue something born out of trust, humility and love.

1. “FIAT” can mean:

- F** – FAITH in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, rooted in the doctrine of the Trinity.
- I** – INTIMACY: our union with God and spiritual bond with the Lord.
- A** – ACCEPTANCE: our humble awareness that we are creations of God, servants in His presence.
- T** – TRUST in God: wholehearted surrender to His will; no half measures.

2. The “FIAT” of Mary: The Fiat of Obedience and Trust

- 2.1. Etymology. The word “fiat” originated from the Latin phrase “*Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum*” that translates “*Let it be done to me according to Your word*” (Luke 1:38).
- 2.2. Theology of Mary’s Fiat. Mary was the first disciple; she humbly and completely submitted to God’s will. Mary’s fiat became the turning point of redemption; from that “YES”, Jesus was born.
- 2.3. The “FIAT” in Us. It is a generous response to a “greater love” to who first called us (Jn. 15:15). It is a call to love more, to serve deeply, to sacrifice for others (Jn. 15:13), and to lay down our life (offering time, talent, treasure) for others with courage and readiness (Jn. 10:11).

3. **The Liturgical Expression of Fiat**. Those who have a vocation to priesthood and religious life have responded with “*Adsum*”, a Latin interjection meaning “*I am here*” It is an expression of perfect surrender, obedience and “yes” to God’s calling.

4. **Jesus’ Fiat**. Mary’s fiat gave us Jesus; it was passive - “let it be done to me.” On the other hand, Jesus’ fiat in Gethsemane was active; it signified His “Yes” to become our Redeemer, submitting His human will to God the Father: “*not my will, but Yours be done*” (Lk. 22:42). Jesus followed His Father’s will from birth to death.

5. How to Live our Fiat today?

- 5.1. Fiat in small things: faithfulness in prayer, ministry and community life even when no one is watching.
- 5.2. Fiat in difficult things: joyful abandonment and resignation to God’s will even if He asks something painful, inconvenient, unclear or difficult.
- 5.3. Fiat with Mary. We need to have Mary’s heart to be able live Jesus’ fiat. Mary did not understand everything but she kept all things in her heart. Hence, let us also be reflective, not reactive (Lk. 2:19)

Conclusion: Every calling, every vocation begins with a sincere “FIAT” and is sustained by daily “fiats.” Our consecration is not a one-time event; our “fiat” must become a daily lifestyle. Mary’s fiat brought Christ into the world while our fiat should bring Christ to the world today.

Reflection:

- 1. How has Mary’s fiat influenced your commitment to deepen your personal relationship with Jesus?
- 2. Identify any activity/service in the LF community that calls you to lay down your life, that asks for your joyful “Yes” or your intentional commitment, your “FIAT.”

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, help us to grow in humility and obedience like Mary to give to you our daily “fiats” so that Your holy will shall be done in our lives. In Jesus’ Name. AMEN!*

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