

## A Summer Gospel

One summer day, Peter, James and John were sitting on the beach of the Sea of Galilee. They looked weary and bored. Jesus was hiking in the nearby hills, his favorite sport. More than hiking he liked the solitude, ideal surrounding to talk to his Abba [Father].

Peter, "We have been following Jesus for over a year now. We hoped to see some real change in our nation's future and believed Jesus was the one who could initiate that. But lately I am disillusioned with him". James, " We had some exiting days in the past in the company of Jesus. Because of his fame we too have some respect in our society. But I find it hard to understand some of his recent remarks. Haven't you noticed he is even reluctant to perform miracles these days! I think we are getting nowhere. Surprisingly, he even talks about trials and suffering. What does suffering have to do with the mission of the Messiah? John, "I feel like Jesus is talking to my soul. I think change must begin in human heart: change in thinking, attitudes and style of living. That is the meaning of what he said the other day, "*I command you, love one another*". Peter, "I agree! When Jesus is with us I feel at peace but when I am alone all my thinking is messed up".

Peter, James and John are all in us. We might feel weary and bored by many things we do. Our friendship with Jesus might even lose its warmth and luster. But great things can happen to us during this summer break if we are interested in a *Spiritual-Hiking*. Let ourselves be surprised by the grandeur of nature in our summer travels and activities! Try to pray without words seeing the wonders we encounter each day. Find time to be alone with Jesus to share our fears and doubts, because we belong to Him who is greater than our anxieties and worries! Seek comfort and strength in the fellowship of family, friends and community, for "mountains don't need mountains but humans need humans" [Basque proverb].

*Father Jose*