

# Jesus' Vocation

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## Jesus a Model

### For Those Who wish to Follow Their Vocation in Life

#### Intent of these Notes

- ✓ *These jottings are based on a reflection of the **sixth word** of Jesus on the cross "It is accomplished"*
- ✓ *We consider Jesus as the "model" and "exemplar" of one who fulfils and accomplishes his life "vocation" in the most perfect way.*
- ✓ *We mean by "Jesus' Vocation" the **Task/Work/Call/Job** Jesus was given by his Heavenly Father during his sojourn on earth.*
- ✓ *To realize that by living up our vocation we find meaning and fulfilment in life.*
- ✓ *To spur us on to search for and discern our task or vocation in life.*

## THE SIXTH WORD JESUS UTTERED WHILE HANGING FROM THE CROSS

### It's Done! It's Accomplished

As Jesus hanged from the Cross, the Chief Priests mocked him. Also those passing by, wagging their heads, derided him saying: "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the son of God, come down from the cross".

From the sixth hour, there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And Jesus, knowing that all was finished, said: "I am thirsty." bowl of vinegar stood there, so they put a sponge soaked in vinegar on a rod and held it to his mouth.

After that, Jesus closed his eyes, rested his chin on his chest and prayerfully, in the presence of his heavenly Father, remembered the history of his life, - Yes, from his birth to crucifixion. He whispered:

"Father, dear Father, you wanted me to be the suffering Saviour, the 'Lamb of God' sacrificed for the salvation of the world. Yes, father, it was your will, it was my vocation. I, lovingly, accepted it. It's accomplished!

Father, you wished me to be born in a stable in a cold December night, helpless, powerless, unnoticed and rejected. Yes, Father, it was your will! It was done! It's accomplished!

You allowed me to be hatred even at my birth. As a child I tasted the bitter bread of the exile far away from the land of my birth. It was your will. It's accomplished!

Father, you wanted me to spend 30 years of my life at Nazareth, in an obscure hamlet, doing the humble job of a village carpenter. Yes, father, it was your will. I did it. It's accomplished!

Father, you called me go to the Jordan to humbly receive the Baptism of John among sinners and outcasts. It was your will, yes Father I accepted it. It's accomplished! There, the skies opened and you clearly manifested my vocation!

- I had been sent to preach the good news to the poor.
- To proclaim liberty to captives.
- To give sight to the blind.
- To set the oppressed free.
- To bring your salvation to mankind..
- To lay down my life that sinners may live.

Yes, Father dear, I accepted it all with all my heart! It was your call, my task, my vocation! I did it. It's accomplished! . I am pleased! My heart is at rest!"

By now, Jesus was growing weaker and weaker. He was gasping and his body quivering. He was overwhelmed, both with suffering and satisfaction. He had done his Father's will. He had fulfilled his vocation.

With belaboured breath, his face contorted with pain, yet in full command, Jesus raised his eyes to his heavenly Father and spoke again:

"Beloved Father, you wanted me to go through the agony of the garden, the sweating of blood, being spat upon, the flogging at the pillar, the crowning of thorns. Yes, Father, it's done. It's accomplished!

Falling time and again, Father, you wanted me to carry the cross to Calvary jeered at, mocked, insulted and cursed by the crowds. You willed that I should be stripped naked and crucified, nailed to the cross, suspended between heaven and earth. Yes, Father, it's done!! It's accomplished!!

Now father I am broken. Shattered, yet not conquered, alone but not lonely. I have done your will. Yes, Father, I accomplished what I was called to do. To die that all may live . In my agony and pain, a cry of joy is welling up from my heart! Farewell Father! **It's accomplished! Into your hands, Oh, Father, I entrust myself!"**

## **Points for Reflection**

### **Jesus' Vocation and Our Vocation**

What do we understand by the word 'vocation'?

1. What was the vocation of Jesus?
2. Who gave it to him?
3. For what purpose?

4. How did He live up to it?
5. What was the outcome of his living up to his vocation?
  - For himself?
  - For us?
  - For the World?
6. Do all of us have a vocation?
7. How to discern and find out our vocation in life?
8. How to live up to it?
9. What will be the consequences of living up to our call?
  - For us in particular?
  - And for the good of world at large?

### **Personal Prayer**

- Ask Him to help you to “accomplish” your vocation all through life.
- Pray to God for the strength to carry out his will as Jesus did.
- Meditate on the prayer of Jesus in the Garden: “Not my will,
- but yours be done!” (Mt 26/39-43; Lk 22/41-42)