



A meditation from a pilgrim on the St. James way



Dear Lord, I want my pilgrimage to St. James to be a real one, but you have to help a little bit.

cucopescador@gmail.com

1. Every morning, at dawn, I will try to have a few minutes of silence to devote only to YOU. It will take 15, 20 or might be 30 minutes. I want to be generous with You, my Lord.

I will tell You about my joys and my sufferings, I will speak about my friends, relatives, those who are suffering, those who need my prayers. Every time I come across a St. James image, your friend, I will ask him to help me with those intentions. I will also ask him to help me with my dreams and hopes, my life's projects. I will ask him to give me faith. I will tell him about my faith or my lack of faith. You will have to help me about that. I am sure that it would be beneficial to read some pages of the Gospel, where we are told about your life and your example towards anybody. I will ask You about the Christian and Catholic faith so that You can tell me what it has to do with You and with me.

2. On arriving at the albergue or refuge, it is the time to practice charity towards the others. I will be kind to everybody and polite with the ones in charge. I don't want to be demanding but thankful. It is time to give up whims, and silly wishes in my life. I want to purify my live on this way I am doing, just because of You. I will look out for the needs of the others, and I will let them go first in the shower, at the kitchen, when it comes to sitting down, I won't take the best bank bed. There are so many times when I can demonstrate You I know how to love the others. I will be respectful with different opinions, I will be able not to speak too much but listen for a long while. I will pay attention to the needs of the others just in case I can be of any help but I just don't notice them. Regarding all this, I can always remember the words You told

us and St Paul remind us: “there is more happiness in giving than in receiving”

3. Early in the evening I will try to look for an open church, there are not so many. I will try to know the times of religious services. I will try to live the Eucharist, the mass (where we are repeating the celebration of the Last Supper), having holy Communion (your body and blood), knowing that I can only receive it when I am in Communion with the Catholic Church, with the Roman bishop, and with the soul free from strong sins. I cannot receive YOU in the Holy Communion when my soul is dirty. I will be an act of treason.

4. During the St. James way, I also want to corroborate my faith with the others. Either in any little chapel or cathedral, I will try to find a priest (St. James was one of the first ones) and I will talk to him about my Christian or religious life, my failures, joys, problems, concerns, doubts, and mistakes. I am sure there is something I can learn or rectify. I have to bear in mind that a great deal of my concerns will vanish when I can tell the others about them. I will also try to confess all my sins, and even if I am not catholic, I will try to speak about my failures. I want to come back home being a new one and with a strong desire to be better somehow.

5. I can notice that it is better to do this way with little weight on my backpack and the same applies to our everyday pilgrimage of life. Therefore, during this way or at the end, I will make a generous donation to someone who is really in need, as a clear sign that you are my real treasure in life, our lord.

May Saint Mary, mother of God, and Saint James, be with us on this way!

