



Topo #11 : A last spiritual exercise!

→ [Link to the video](#)

Dear friends, here we are at the end of this retreat.



We can see in this path, that **Ignatius gradually receives from his Lord and companion Jesus, a wisdom and freedom** in the face of failures, in the face of the spraying of his most cherished projects by successive bullets: **Pulverized his career of military honor and worldly**, by the cannonball which shatters his leg at the siege of Pamplona! **Pulverized his desire to stay in Jerusalem to visit holy places** and help souls by the weight of the Church ban! **Pulverized his desire to give spiritual exercises** and complete studies in Spain by the bullet of suspicion of the Inquisition! **Pulverized his desire to spend himself with his companions in Jerusalem** by the ball of war with the Turks preventing any navigation in the Mediterranean! **Finally pulverized his desire for an itinerant apostolate** and open air by the ball of the vote of his companions who elect him general representative, fixing him in Rome in the drafting of the constitutions.

With his companion Jesus, **Ignatius learns that God can be sought and found in all things**, in all situations, failure as well as success. In Ignatius, there is the discovery of the transformation of the ordeal into luck, the discovery of the intelligent use of the event. Ignatius' temperament will remain, his weaknesses too, his hesitations, his scruples, the burdens of his past, his unbearable indignity, the feeling of never doing enough. But he will always have this faith, this interior certainty in the infinite mercy of God, in his incredible love without a priori.

His fundamental project can be summed up in one sentence: **"to believe in the beautiful love of God, revealed in Jesus Christ, and to carry it with other companions and in all creation."** So what to do at the end of retirement?

We offer a last exercise, a beautiful spiritual exercise: **quite simply to collect the fruits**. To do this, simply stop, take a moment of prayer, maybe why not go for a walk, but in any case put yourself in the presence of God. And remember everything that happened during these ten days. Those who have taken notes, it is a good thing to reread them, to find a pearl in them. For others it may be to quickly browse the prayer wall or simply to look at the retreat page after page and remember the passage, the testimony, the meditation that most appealed to me. And from there, write a sentence. It will be a bit of your stele, it's like all these biblical characters who mark a place with a stele. Well, it's up to you to create your own stele, to say **"here is the Lord passed, and I lived it,**



and such and such a sentence sums up this passage, this discovery!" It is a treasure that the Lord has given you and that He encourages you to keep for your whole life. Tomorrow a last email will be sent to you to help you continue your spiritual life after retirement, and also to offer you a review.

Have a good day, have a great end of retirement, see you soon!