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**V GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE BISHOPS OF**

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Disciples and missionaries of Jesus Christ, so that our

Peoples may have life in Him

*"I am the Way and the Truth and the life"(Jn 16:4)*

Concluding
Document

Aparecida, 13-31 May 2007



*“Stay with us,
 for it is towards evening,*

*and the day is now far spent ” (Lk 24:29).*

*Stay with us, Lord, keep us company,*

*even though we have not always recognized you.*

*Stay with us, because all around us the shadows are deepening, and you are the Light;*

*discouragement is eating its way into our hearts:*

*make them burn with the certainty of Easter.*

*We are tired of the journey, but you comfort us in the breaking of bread,*

*so that we are able to proclaim to our brothers and sisters that you have truly risen*

*and have entrusted us with the mission of being witnesses of your resurrection.*

*Stay with us, Lord, when mists of doubt, weariness or difficulty*

*rise up around our Catholic faith;*

*you are Truth itself, you are the one who reveals the Father to us:*

*enlighten our minds with your word,*

*and help us to experience the beauty of believing in you.*

*Remain in our families, enlighten them in their doubts, sustain them in their difficulties,*

 *console them in their sufferings and in their daily labors,*

*when around them shadows build up which threaten their unity and their natural identity.*

*You are Life itself: remain in our homes,*

*so that they may continue to be nests where human life is generously born,*

*where life is welcomed, loved and respected from conception to natural death.*

*Remain, Lord, with those in our societies who are most vulnerable;*

*remain with the poor and the lowly, with indigenous peoples and Afro-Americans,*

*who have not always found space and support to express the richness of their culture*

*and the wisdom of their identity.*

*Remain, Lord, with our children and with our young people,*

*who are the hope and the treasure of our Continent,*

*protect them from so many snares that attack their innocence*

*and their legitimate hopes.*

*O Good Shepherd, remain with our elderly and with our sick.*

*Strengthen them all in faith,*

*so that they may be your disciples and missionaries!*

Amen🕆

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