**05. THE GOLDEN CALF AND PRAYER WITH THE SCRIPTURE**

The catechist will introduce the GOLDEN CALF (Joe)

Then another catechist will explain the index of the books in the bible (Simon)

Participants will have time to find the links of the given text

Sharing time: in case they want to share at least one question…and then Andrea will share his testimony

We go all in the chapel

The participants are invited to write down the list of their idols and to place the list on the altar asking God to make them free

**Catechesis of the Golden CALF**

* Why **do we make an idol? Why our God is not enough?**
* We read: Exodus 32,1-6

• Liberation from slavery in Egypt, the Red Sea, reaching Sinai, the covenant, the Decalogue, the absence of Moses for forty days and forty nights.

**• What is desert?** Passage, you cannot live there because there is neither water nor food. Reference points are missing, Moses is missing. You need something safe/something to grasp/to see with your own eyes! **We do not have life in ourselves**: we must get life from without! You have to eat! Uncertainty characterizes us.

• **Golden calf**: the image of power; the image of fertility, affectivity, wealth/power.

• the golden calf is Your self-reflection/desire to be what you don’t have in yourself

• **They celebrate** because they have found the reference point. Now they can see their leader

• The **idol** is composed of the gold of the ears (earrings): wisdom is a struggle between the two senses: seeing/vision and hearing/listen. Seeing captures form, listening captures meaning, and learning. The meaning of things is much more important than the form. In fact, when you follow an idol, you no longer hear anything and only see your goal.

• Then your certainties become a cage/prison: untouchable/unchangeable habits, tradition is an escape system from people's opinion. (work/future/better house…).

• The result: a mediocre life, absolutely within a scheme that no one can touch.

• **Why, then, do we make idols?** Because we are insecure and we respond to insecurity with idolatry.

• We hate our insecurity, fragility, fluidity. We hate when we cannot have control over life…

• It's still the human condition: why are you never calmed down? Because man is made like this, it is his nature. You are not wrong!!!

• **We love our idols because we hate our insecurities,** we should do the opposite: accept our insecurities and hate the idols.

• **Uncertainty is a gift from God,** it is the path to greatness, the sign of your nobility: you are made for something greater. **Greater than your works, than you, than this world. Uncertainty is your way to meet God. Personally!**

• You can no longer be satisfied with small things. **You have a question inside you that will never be satisfied with a career, with the approval of others, with the applause of the public.**

• The things you rely on are not bad, but your question deserves a better answer. Don't be satisfied!! Only God is enough!