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# **Youth Speaking Out: "Do I speak with Jesus, or am I frightened of silence?"**

Mariam is a young Kenyan woman who is studying engineering. She is convinced that we can listen to Christ who speaks to us in the ordinary experiences of our daily life.

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We know that the Holy Father wants to "listen to the youth... young people from the whole world, Catholic and non-Catholic youth, Christian youth and youth from other religions, and young people who do not know if they believe or do not believe. All of them... it is important that you speak; do not let yourselves be silenced." (Address to Youth in Chile, 17 January 2018). For this reason, he has called for a Synod meeting this coming October to consider "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment."

Responding to this request, young people from different countries open up in this new video series "Youth Speaking Out," sharing their dreams and concerns as they respond to specific questions directed at them by the Holy Father.

As a starting point, the series takes a few words from the address given by

Pope Francis at the pre-synod meeting that took place in March, which brought together youth from every continent. On that occasion, the Pope encouraged those present to "speak courageously. Without shame... You know how to speak like this."

In this second video in the series Mariam, from Kenya, responds to the Pope's question: "Do I speak with Jesus, or am I frightened of silence?" Mariam is convinced that stopping to pray is very worthwhile, and she shares with us how she dialogues with Jesus through the daily experiences in her life.