

A Spirit of Vulnerability

- *brother Michael*

IN THE CLOISTER OF THE MONASTERY WE HAVE A spacious room with lots of windows looking out over the Green Mountains. We sit in a circle as we listen and speak from our heart. The room is called “The Upper Room,” named after the room where Jesus and his disciples celebrated the Last Supper. A spirit of vulnerability permeates the whole ambience. It is here that we met with the sisters from Suesa.

The word vulnerability has as its Latin root, “capable of being wounded.” We all have tender hearts that can be wounded, but this capacity of our heart also is the place where we meet one another on very meaningful levels.

In our last discussion we explored our capacity to take risks. It is clear that our ability to risk is a thread that weaves the two communities together. Not seeking power or security, each day we open our lives in trust of God’s love. This capacity for risk—for vulnerability—can only be shared in our moments of presence with each other. We are unable to capture that spirit in words.

We all move into an open future dependent on God’s love and mercy, and in the same measure, dependent on each other’s love and mercy. ■



Sister Yolanda and brothers



Sister Esther and brothers



Sister María and brothers