GIVING EVERYTHING YOU FIND EVERYTHING

7 WoL
WORD OF LIFE

«The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.»

Mt 13: 45-46

From the commentary of Chiara Lubich
Adapted by the Gen 3 Center

Under the magnifying glass...

This was not the first time that the disciples were faced with a radical choice. **In order to follow Jesus, they had to leave everything** – everything that was most precious to them, such as family affection, financial security, guarantees for the future.
However, Jesus is not asking something pointless or absurd.
For the "everything" that we let go of, there is the "everything" that we find, which is immeasurably more precious.

The profound meaning of this parable is **the encounter with Jesus!**
That's the pearl!
It's a unique opportunity that we have to jump at, using all our energy and everything we possess.

Every time Jesus asks for something, he promises to give much, much more. He gives abundantly.

God offers this opportunity to all people so that they will seize it.

This Word of Life is a concrete invitation to put aside everything that can take the place of God in our hearts: *a nice bicycle, a motorbike, sports, or some entertainment…*

It invites us to **put God in the first place** in our hearts, at the top of our thoughts and of all our affections, so that everything in life can converge towards him and come to us from him.

Let's learn from the small children to trust more in God's providence, because **like a Father he never fails to give to those who give to others the little they have, out of love.**

SOMETHING I gave:

SOMETHING I found:

This is what happened to… Young people in Congo

A few months ago, a group of young people in Congo started making greeting cards out of banana peels. The cards were then sold in Germany.
At first, they kept all the profits for themselves, because some of them had to support their whole family. Later on, they decided to share half of their profits to help 35 young people who were unemployed.
But God does not let himself be outdone in generosity.
Two of these young people did such a good job in the shop where they were working, that other shopkeepers who were looking for workers came to see – and **11 of them were offered permanent jobs**!

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