

THIS IS HOW WE LIVE

“AN UNEXPECTED MEETING”

I was going home from school one day when I saw a girl sitting on a bench who was crying very hard. I thought, “I wonder what happened to her?” Without hesitating, I stopped...



...and asked how she was and if I could help her in some way. She looked up at me and still sobbing, started to tell me her story. When she was little, her mother died and this was still so painful that she felt there was no reason to go on living .



I forgot all my plans and gave her my whole attention, just to be with her and love her in that moment. We kept talking and I told her about myself.

I had lost my mom, too, when I was three years old. After a while I understood that my life couldn't just stop because of the pain I felt. I discovered that God is my Father and that he loves me immensely. His love fills every empty spot in my life. I told her how I try to respond to his love by loving others around me.



> My new friend was so happy that when she thanked me and said goodbye, she seemed like another person!

> This unexpected meeting was very important for me. I realized that the experience I have with Jesus, my best friend, not only makes me happy, but makes me capable of giving this happiness to others, too.

Beatriz from ANGOLA

iBrother

«We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another.»

What does it mean to pass from death to life?

The life that the Apostle John is referring to is the life that leads us to union with God, to having an experience of God who is Love.

Can we really experience union with God?

Yes! Through our experiences of living the Gospel, and especially when we put into practice the commandment to love others, we enter into the life of God himself.

The life of God himself? How is that possible?

When we live the commandment of love, God takes possession of us and an unmistakable sign of this is the life, joy and peace that he gives us already here on earth.

What happens when we don't love others?

When we stop loving, everything withers and dies. That's why we see around us people who have no enthusiasm or ideals in life, who are always bored and want to escape reality, or who have lost good values, etc.

So what can I do?

The radical solution to all of these negative attitudes is to love others, to live the commandment of love which sums up all the other commandments.

If I love like this, where will my love go?

When we live the commandment of love, it's not only our life that benefits, but everyone around us is affected, too. Relationships between people change, as well as between groups, and little by little the world around us is transformed.



From a commentary by Chiara Lubich - Adapted by the Gen 3 Center

MY GREAT GOAL

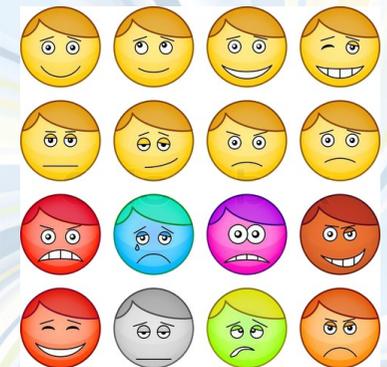
This Word of Life reminds us that the in a world like ours – in which violence is widespread, where the strongest or most clever person rules, or where materialism and selfishness seem to paralyze society, the answer we can give is to love our neighbor. This is the medicine that can heal the world.

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In Action

I resolve to love...



EACH PERSON IS DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE. MAKE A MARK ON ONE FACE WHEN YOU HAVE LOVED ONE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS.

G3N

CUT AND FOLD IN HALF. YOU CAN USE THE INSIDE TO WRITE YOUR COMMENTS AND THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS WORD OF LIFE.

CUT OUT THIS PART. WHEN YOU FOLD IT, IT BECOMES A USEFUL CARD TO TAKE AROUND WITH YOU.