

"The early times"

Chiara shared with us

remember that at the beginning of the Focolare Movement this new way of life filled our hearts with a special love for the poor.

When we met them on the street, we would ask for their address, and write it down in a small notebook, so that we could visit them later and help them - they were Jesus to be loved.

After we visited them, we invited them for dinner at our house.

We used the most beautiful tablecloth, the best silverware, the best food. At our table in the first "focolare" house, each one of us would sit next to a poor person - one of us, then a poor person, then another one of us, then a poor person.

At one point it seemed that the Lord was asking us to be poor ourselves, so as to serve the poor people, and everyone else, too. So we all got together and each one put in a pile all that she had that was extra and could be given away - like an extra coat, or a pair of gloves, or a hat, or a fur jacket... That was the beginning, and now in the Focolare Movement today, there are business men and women who are committed to providing jobs and sharing their profits with the poor!

But there is still so much that can be done to help those who are poor!



I will try to live like this too...



WORD OF LIFE

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Lk 3,11

«WHOEVER HAS TWO CLOAKS SHOULD SHARE WITH THE PERSON WHO HAS NONE; AND WHOEVER HAS FOOD SHOULD DO LIKEWISE.»

IS SOMEONE'S MOTHER SICK? I WILL HELP HER AS IF SHE WERE MY MOTHER.

ARE THERE PEOPLE WHO ARE HUNGRY? IT'S AS IF I WERE HUNGRY, AND I TRY TO FIND FOOD FOR THEM AS I WOULD FOR MYSELF.



JUST AS A PLANT ABSORBS FROM THE SOIL ONLY THE AMOUNT OF WATER IT NEEDS, SO WE SHOULD TRY TO KEEP ONLY WHAT WE NEED.



WHY SHOULD I GIVE WHAT IS MINE TO ANOTHER PERSON? SINCE WE WERE BOTH CREATED BY GOD, THE OTHER PERSON IS MY BROTHER, OR MY SISTER. THEREFORE, HE OR SHE IS A PART OF ME.



WE WERE CREATED AS A GIFT FOR ONE ANOTHER, SINCE WE WERE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD WHO IS LOVE.

WE HAVE LOVE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE, GESTURES OF FRIENDSHIP TO OFFER, JOY TO SHARE.



LET'S TRY IT! LET'S START LIVING LIKE THIS. JESUS WILL GIVE US A SPECIAL GIFT- JOY IN OUR HEARTS. THE HAPPINESS EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR!

WE HAVE MANY RICHES THAT WE CAN SHARE WITH OTHERS

THE NEEDS OF OUR NEIGHBOR ARE THE NEEDS OF ALL OF US.

DRAW A SMILEY EVERY TIME YOU EXPERIENCE REAL JOY. THEN SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH A FRIEND.

