«GIVE & IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU»

«GOOD MEASURE, PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER, WILL BE POURED INTO YOUR LAP» (LK 6:38)

Jesus gives us great news in the Gospel because he reveals to us that God the Father loves each of us, his children, personally! His love fills us to overflowing. He makes us capable of opening our hearts and being generous with everyone we meet.

He also asks a lot of us when he says:

«GIVE WHATEVER YOU HAVE. GIVE YOUR POSSESSIONS, BUT YOU CAN ALSO GIVE HOSPITALITY, FORGIVENESS AND MERCY. IMITATE GOD AND HAVE A BIG HEART TOWARDS EVERYONE.»

He uses the image of pouring an abundant reward into our lap to help us understand that the measure of God's love for us is boundless. He fulfills his promises to us in a way that exceeds all our expectations.

EXPERIENCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

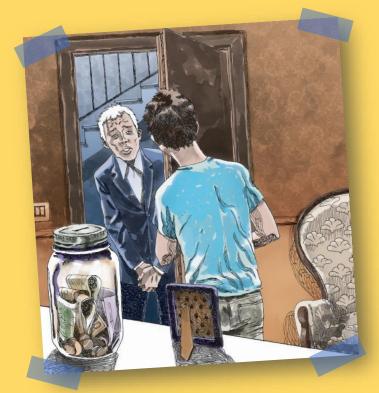
«I LIVE IN A VERY POOR NEIGHBORHOOD

AND I WAS SAVING MONEY TO BUY A PAIR OF SOCCER SHOES.

I LOVE TO PLAY SOCCER AND I PLAY A LOT

BECAUSE I'M ON THE TEAM AT SCHOOL.»

«ONE DAY A MAN CAME TO OUR DOOR AND ASKED FOR MONEY
SO THAT HE COULD HAVE HIS SON BURIED.
I KNEW THAT JESUS WAS IN HIM AND I REMEMBERED
THE MONEY I HAD SAVED, SO I GAVE IT TO HIM.»



«THREE DAYS LATER MY AUNT GAVE ME A NEW PAIR OF SOCCER SHOES – EXACTLY THE KIND I HAD WANTED TO BUY!

Have you ever received
a gift from a friend
and felt the need to reciprocate?
If that's how you feel,
you can imagine that the same
applies to God who is Love.

He always repays every gift
that we give to others in his name.
God does not behave in this way
to enrich you, nor to enrich us.
He does it because the more we have,
the more we can give.
Then we can share everything
with the community around us,
as good managers of what God has given us.

Jesus was certainly referring to the reward we will have in heaven, but the way we live here on earth can be a preview of heaven and a guarantee that we will get there.

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CHIARA LUBICH

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