

WORD OF LIFE

"All belongs to you!

And you belong to Christ"

These words give us the great and wonderful news of the Gospel: God is with us, we are not all alone, like orphans. We are his children!

Like a good father he takes care of each one of us, never depriving us of anything we need that is good for us.

TRUST AND GRATITUDE

We should be grateful for the immense gift of God who tells us "All belongs to you." We often complain about all the things we don't have and only turn to God when we want something.

> Why not look around and see all the beauty and goodness that surrounds us? Why not thank God for all he gives us every day?

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

«All belongs to you» is also a responsibility.

> It requires that we take good care of everything that has been entrusted to us. This includes the whole world and every human being in it. We have to care for them as Jesus cares for us.

CONCRETE ACTION:

MAKE YOURSELF ONE = LIVE THE LIFE OF THE OTHER

We should try to rejoice with those who are happy about something and cry with those who are sad. We should be ready to take on every division, suffering or violent act and make it positive by transforming it into love.



A MISSED TURN... SHARED!

I have been doing competitive swimming for the past few years. There are about a hundred of us involved. My group has grown a lot over these years and we have become very united. This doesn't usually happen because, as you know, swimming is an individual sport and so the athletes usually tend to concentrate only on their own scores.

When I read the Word of Life, I often ask myself how to live it in my daily life and that makes me think of my team. Even though we never speak about Jesus and we don't read the Gospel together, I feel there's a great spirit of brotherhood among us.

When I go to the locker room at the pool every afternoon, I try to put aside everything that happened that day and just live those hours well, loving my companions and trying to help them.

I had one particular experience when my teammate made a big mistake during an important national tournament. He failed on a flip turn during one of his most important meets. I can't tell you how disappointed we all were when we saw his name come up on the screen – in last place! He was disqualified! You can just imagine the consequences! And yet, as he was walking toward me, I felt like a small flame burning within my heart telling me, "Jesus is in him - Jesus who is suffering in this moment." I could love him! So I immediately smiled at him and tried to reassure him. It took the whole afternoon but then he finally told me, "Thanks, Ale, you're great!" I felt such a great joy inside! I was happy because I had managed to make his pain my own.

Did you ever have an experience like this?