

«WHOEVER WELCOMES YOU WELCOMES ME AND WHOEVER WELCOMES ME WELCOMES THE ONE WHO SENT ME.»

«SHOW EVERYONE THE BEAUTY OF LIVING LIKE TRUE BROTHERS AND SISTERS.»

A

(Mt 10:40)

IN THIS CHAPTER OF THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, WE LEARN HOW JESUS CHOSE THE TWELVE APOSTLES AND SENT THEM OUT TO PREACH HIS MESSAGE TO EVERYONE.

All Christians have the same mission as the first disciples. We have to tell everyone about Jesus, first with the example of our lives and then also with our words. We have to give witness to the love that God has for us, so that everyone can have the same joy in their hearts.



B

And since we have been welcomed by God, with all our limitations, we have to give witness to others by warmly welcoming each person in the same way.

IN A SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE AIMS AT SUCCESS AND THINKS ONLY OF THEMSELVES, CHRISTIANS ARE CALLED TO SHOW THE BEAUTY OF LIVING LIKE A FAMILY, WHOSE MEMBERS SEE THE NEEDS OF ONE ANOTHER AND SET INTO MOTION RECIPROCAL LOVE.



«Experiences around the world»

«JESUS WAS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW GOD THE FATHER WELCOMES EACH PERSON WITH LOVE. HE ALSO SHOWED US HOW WE SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER SINCE GOD LOVED US SO MUCH».

«It made me very sad to see that many of the teens in my school only think about themselves. They don't even make the effort to say, "Hello!" to anyone.

I decided to take the first step and I made some friends. I also noticed one boy in particular who looked very unhappy. He didn't talk to anyone. I started to talk to him and one day he confided in me. He said that he was desperate, and even though he was wealthy, something was missing in his life. He searched for the truth in books and wondered how someone could believe in God when there is so much suffering in the world. Since he couldn't find any answers, he even contemplated committing suicide.

I assured him that he could count on me. To make him feel needed, my friends and I asked for his help in some of our subjects. He started to feel better. He often asked me questions about faith and so one day I invited him to a meeting of the Teens4Unity. At the end of the meeting he told us: **"This is the first time I met all of you, but you gave me the answer I was looking for. God is love and when we love other people, he is within us."** He had been raised a Catholic, so he went to confession and started going to Mass again after a long time. He told me: **"You and your friends saved my life!"**

R. ( Brazil )

C

LET'S TRY TO LIVE THIS WORD OF LIFE ESPECIALLY IN OUR FAMILIES, OUR PARISHES, OUR SCHOOLS, OUR SPORTS EVENTS. LET'S GET RID OF ANY PREJUDICE, DISCRIMINATION, RESENTMENT, INTOLERANCE. THESE ATTITUDES CAN BLOCK OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS, LEAD TO REJECTING SOME PEOPLE OR EVEN BULLYING. THE WHEELS OF MUTUAL LOVE WILL GET RUSTY OR STOP ALL TOGETHER.

Welcoming the other person, especially someone who is different from us, is basically what Christian love is all about.

It's the first step that will create a civilization of love, a world where everything is shared. This is what Jesus wants us to do today in particular.»<sup>1</sup>

