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Hi! My name is Sameh and I come from Iraq. I'll tell you my experience. One day during the summer I went on a trip with my family and some friends.

While I was playing with them I heard my aunt calling me.



From a distance I saw her and could see that she had a huge box that needed to be loaded into her car.



I pretended that I didn't hear her and went on playing.

She kept calling me, but even my friends told me not to pay any attention to her, because anyway I was too small to carry such a heavy load by myself.

Then the voice inside me got very loud: "Sameh, you belong to Jesus, you're different!" And then I told myself, "He's the one who's calling you!" So I left my friends and ran to help my aunt.

My friends started making fun of me! But when I tried to lift the box onto my shoulders, all of them ran over to help me to carry it to the car.



One of them told to me, "Jesus gives joy to those who love him," and my joy at that moment had been multiplied 100 times!

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

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(1 Jn. 3:18)

«LET US LOVE, NOT IN WORD OR SPEECH, BUT IN TRUTH AND ACTION.»

To love in deeds? But what does that have to do with faith?

John the Evangelist was putting his communities on guard against certain people whose words spoke highly of faith in Jesus, but who did not follow faith through with practice.

Oh, I see! Now, the first characteristic of this kind of love is its concreteness.

Jesus did not love us merely by giving wonderful talks. Rather, he was in our midst doing good, healing all, being fully available to those who came to him, beginning with the weakest, the poorest, the most marginalized, and giving up his life for us.

Do you remember any such episodes from Jesus' life?

Find in the Gospel episodes that give an example of how Jesus loved.

And what does it mean that we must love in truth?

Christian love is deeply concerned with being inspired by the truth of love that we find in Jesus.

We must love, that is, in the way and with the measure Jesus shows us.

Its message is almost too clear. It is a reminder of that genuine Christianity upon which Jesus insisted so much.

Authenticity = Giving Witness! That's what all my friends want to see when I talk to them about the Christian life.

Let's start with ourselves then, giving witness to the love of Jesus.

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

MemoryCard

LET'S, THEREFORE, LOVE IN ACTION AND NOT ONLY IN WORD, BEGINNING WITH THE HUMBLE SERVICES THAT ARE ASKED OF US EACH DAY BY THOSE AROUND US.



In Action...

FIND IN THE GOSPEL EPISODES THAT SHOW HOW JESUS LOVED WITH ACTUAL DEEDS:

Five horizontal lines for writing notes.

CUT AND FOLD IN HALF, YOU CAN USE THE INSIDE OF THIS CARD 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.