

“He comes to save you.”

This sentence tells us that Jesus is coming! It's a certainty!

And he won't delay in coming. He won't make us wait till the end of time or until we get to heaven.

God loves us and he wants to come into our life NOW.

CONCRETE LOVE

God doesn't come to see us just for a casual visit.

He comes because he sees that we are very selfish and don't care much about people who are suffering or in need. He comes because he sees all the hatred and divisions on earth.

He sees that humanity is sick!

He is moved to pity for us because he created us and doesn't want us to get lost.

HIS HANDS ARE ALWAYS OPEN

God's hand is like that of someone who reaches out to save a person who is drowning. We see this image in the many people who are fleeing their countries, by sea or by land, and who quickly grasp the hand of someone who helps them with a lifejacket or an outstretched hand. **We, too, can reach out to God's outstretched hand in every moment, trusting him to help us.**

GOING OUT TO THOSE WHO SUFFER

He will heal our hearts and make us capable of reaching out to others, instead of being concentrated on ourselves.

He will make us able to help others.

He will show us how to go out towards people who are sad, or who need our help, or who are going through a really hard time and need our support.

Cut and fold

**OUR EXPERIENCES**

From Madagascar

TOGETHER IT'S EASIER TO START OVER

A few of my classmates started bringing alcohol and drugs to school with them. **One of my friends, whom I had often helped with her homework, got involved with them and so did other kids in my class. They started to do drugs and that created a lot of division in our class.**

Some of my other friends and I realized that F. was in a dangerous situation which could escalate into taking something stronger and thus falling into a way of life that's hard to get out of. We decided to talk to her, but my friends thought I was the best person to do it, because I had been her friend and had helped her in school.

I asked Jesus to help me find the right words and also that she would feel my love. At first she told me that she was trying to stop using the drug. Then later she said she had changed her mind and told me she didn't care if I didn't help her anymore. For a long time after that she wouldn't speak to me or to my friends.

It was almost time for our school trip that we had been planning for several months. It was a study trip so we had to work together, but our class was so divided it seemed impossible.

Even though I was sure that I hadn't done anything to offend F. who still wouldn't speak to me, I decided to take the initiative and apologize to her. My other friends did the same.

That's how we all got back to being friends again, just like before.

Shortly after that, the students who had been bringing drugs and alcohol to school were apprehended by the school authorities, together with anyone who had been involved with them. Since I am the class leader, I was called in to testify to what we all knew. Some of the students confessed and said they were sorry, and so they were allowed to stay in school with us. **Others, instead, denied being involved, but once the proof of their guilt was evident, they were expelled from school.**

Did you ever have an experience like this?