

Living the Gospel

Chiara Lubich, Word of Life, May 1982
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«You have already been cleansed by the word I have spoken to you».

Jn 15:3



«You have already been cleansed...». What does that mean?

It means that you have been purified and so you can stand in front of God, without any obstacles, like sins, for example, which block us from contact with the divine.

Jesus tells us the way to be pure which is to live his words. His disciples heard them and followed them with their whole heart. His words purified them

In fact, the Words of Jesus are not like human words. Jesus is actually present in them, just like he is present, although in another way, in the Eucharist. **Through his Words, he enters our hearts and when we put them into practice, Christ is born and grows in us.**

THE WORD OF GOD IS ALSO COMPARED TO A SEED PLANTED IN THE HEART OF A BELIEVER. IF WE WELCOME IT, LIKE ANY SEED IT GROWS AND DEVELOPS AND PRODUCES FRUIT. IT MAKES US MORE LIKE JESUS.



HOW DOES JESUS BECOME PRESENT IN EACH ONE OF US?



EXPERIENCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

At a certain point, I noticed that I didn't feel God's presence in my heart as I had in the past. I kept saying my prayers before going to sleep, but I felt like I was reciting empty words. So I tried to make more of an effort, like taking time to meditate and read some brief section of the Gospel. Then I would try to put his Words into practice as well as I could, living the present moment and loving others.

Several days during the week there is a Mass in my parish church and so I try to attend it, even though some of my friends say I'm going overboard by attending Mass even on weekdays. But I really see that it helps me a lot to live my day well. I feel that my union with God is growing stronger. Not only, but I also feel more enthusiastic about living the Gospel and loving everyone I meet.

(F. Argentina)

