

# Living the Gospel

Chiara Lubich, Word of Life, October 2002  
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«Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind».

(Mt 22:37)

“What is the greatest commandment of the law?” Jesus answered this question in a very original way. He put together love of God and love of our neighbor, His followers should never separate these two, just as the roots of a tree cannot be separated from its branches. The more we love God, the greater will be our love for others. And the more we love others, the greater will be our love for God.

Jesus is the one who really knows who God is and how we should love him.

God is his Father and our Father, his God and our God.

God loves each one of us personally. He loves me just as he loves you. He is my God and your God.

«Love the Lord your God»”

## How can we live this commandment?

By growing closer to God, who is our father and our friend. And especially by doing his will.

That means to do well, right to the end, whatever he asks of us, in the present moment of our life.

LOVING MEANS TO RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE FOR US.

## EXPERIENCE

Before school started I got sick and a few days later the doctor said I had to be admitted to the hospital.

I had a very high fever. It was about 104F(40C) and I was feeling very sick. I asked myself why I had to be the one to get sick the day before school started and so couldn't go and see all my friends!

But then I saw that with this mentality, I would never do anything good for anyone, not even my mom, who was so close to me. I realized that the way I was acting was not good and I felt very sorry about it.

Finally, after making a great effort, I accepted the situation. I understood that I had to live the present moment that Jesus was offering to me.

**So I started to love the other patients in my hospital room and also the doctors and nurses.**

After a few days I started to feel better and most of all I felt peace in my heart. **I calmly accepted all the painful things, like the injections. I kept telling Jesus: "I offer this to you."**

And because of this I had more love in my heart to start the new school year.

F. (Italy)