

THE JOY
OF BEING
ONE
PEOPLE

1 WoL
WORD OF LIFE

«God will dwell with them
and they will be his people»

Rev 21:3

From the commentary of Chiara Lubich
Adapted by the Gen 3 Center

Under the magnifying glass...

The Word of Life this month gives us great encouragement.

If we want to be part of God's people, we have to allow him to live among us.

But how is this possible? What can we do to experience something of the joy that will be ours forever, when we go to see God face to face?

This is exactly what Jesus revealed to us. He came to communicate to us his life of love with the Father, so that we can live it, too.

This Word of Life tells us that we Christians can have God dwelling with us. However, there are certain things required of us: **we have to live according to the will of God, love others as Jesus loved, live mutual love, have such accord in thought and feeling that we reach a harmony that "unites, and contains the Son of God."**



Jesus continues to be present, even though he is no longer physically on earth. He dwells among those who live the new commandment of mutual love, the law that makes them a people, the people of God. This Word of Life is therefore an urgent call to witness, through loving, to the presence of God.

The key to having God live among us is found in the teachings of Jesus. In fact, St. John says, "If we love one another, God remains in us."

It's up to us Christians to show the world **one single people** made up of every ethnic group, race and culture, adults and children, just one people to whom we can apply the words said of the first Christians, **"Look at how they love one another and are ready to give their lives for one another."**



That's what happened to...

Ernesto
(Caribbean)



I went with my friend Daxel, who is also part of the Young for Unity in my city, to a birthday party for another friend who was turning 15. Her house was very far away and we had to walk a long way.

At a certain point in the party, I heard some loud laughing in another part of the house and I was curious to see what was going on – I wanted to join in the fun! I found everyone out on the balcony of the house and they were pointing and laughing at a man on the street who was so drunk he couldn't stand up. I immediately went to get Daxel, who didn't realize what was going on, and told him we had to go downstairs. When we got close to the man, we realized he was very big and heavy and it was hard to get him on his feet. The others were yelling down at us, telling us to leave him there, that he gets drunk all the time.

But for me he was Jesus and that's all. He was very happy and thanked us, but I told him, "You have to thank God!" **When we went back upstairs to the party, everyone looked at us in amazement, and then they started to applaud!** We were so happy that we had been able to give witness to our love for each and every person.

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