

## A LOVE THAT... IS A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP.

T E E N S ' B O O K M A R K

If Care becomes a bookmark it will accompany you this month and help you live this Word of Life.

BERNADETTE

BRAZIL

*In my town, there are still big divisions between blacks and whites.*

*Jesus tells us to love everyone because we are all brothers and sisters. So, when a girl asked me if my family could give her a ride to school, I said yes, without considering what the color of her skin was.*

*However, our schoolmates began to say bad things about me. And if my parents for some reason couldn't take us, no one else would give us a ride. So we would have to walk the whole way to school.*

*This girl really felt excluded and suffered from it. And for me, too, it wasn't easy to accept this barrier among us.*

*I tried to love even those who didn't understand my way of doing things. I realized that, little by little, my friendship with everyone was deeper and that many of my peers were starting to get closer to that friend.*

*I've found that each of us can start to build a more beautiful and more united world with a small act of love.*

**Would you have taken sides? Which one and why?**

«IF YOU KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, YOU WILL ABIDE IN MY LOVE, JUST AS I HAVE KEPT MY FATHER'S COMMANDMENTS AND ABIDE IN HIS LOVE» (Jn 15:10)

**T**hese words are taken from Jesus' farewell address after the Last Supper. It is clear that by keeping his commandments we remain in his love.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." **This means that the our love for Jesus is what motivates everything we do, and is the root that helps us keep his commandments.**

HOW CAN

I REMAIN

IN HIS

LOVE?

**K**eeping his commandments is the sign, the proof that we are his true friends. It is the condition for Jesus to reciprocate and assure us of his friendship.

*But it seems that he wants to say something else as well, and it's this: keeping his commandments makes us grow and learn how to love like Jesus does.*

A LOVE

THAT OVERCOMES

EVERY

DIVISION

**J**esus' love was a love that **healed every wound of the soul and of the body**, a love that gave peace and joy to every heart, a love that overcame every **division by restoring solidarity and unity among all.**

*If we put his word into practice, Jesus will live in us and make us instruments of his love.*

LOVE

ONE ANOTHER

AS I HAVE

LOVED YOU

**T**his month let's take just one of his words, one of his commandments and try to put it into practice, to live it.

*Since Jesus' New Commandment is like the heart, the summary of all his words, let's live it without compromising.*