



WORD OF LIFE



A Great Project



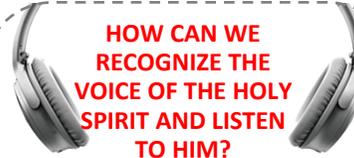
Read Acts 1:8

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and **you will be my witnesses.**”

The apostles, as well as all those who follow Jesus, are sent out to be «witnesses».

«WHEN DO WE WITNESS?»

We do it when we take as our own the **lifestyle of Jesus**. This means that every day, wherever we are, in our family or in school or when we are having fun, we reach out to everyone, welcoming them and sharing their life. And always keeping in our minds and hearts God’s great plan: **to make all people one family.**



HOW CAN WE RECOGNIZE THE VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND LISTEN TO HIM?

«The Holy Spirit lives in us; we are his temple. He enlightens us and guides us. He is the Spirit of truth and so he helps us understand the words of Jesus. He makes his words come alive and real for us. **He makes us fall in love with Wisdom.** He suggests the words for us to say to others and how to say them.

HE GIVES US THE COURAGE AND THE STRENGTH TO LIVE WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS AND TO ALWAYS GIVE WITNESS TO THE TRUTH. HE WILL GIVE US THE STRENGTH WE NEED.

If we have God’s love in our hearts, we can reach people at a great distance and help many discover God in their life. But reaching «the ends of the earth» doesn’t only mean geographically far away. It also means, for example, people who are close to us, but who haven’t yet experienced the joy of knowing the truth of the Gospel. Our witness has to **have that goal!** ^{1»}

Chiara Lubich



Prepared by the Teens4Unity Center, Rome, Italy.

CUT AND FOLD
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In Action



Creating a Culture Of Giving and Sharing

With our class we can «adopt» one social project and support it, not only financially, but especially getting to know our peers in other countries or situations.

Write to: eas@amu-it.eu



Experiences around the world



WHEN SOMEONE NEW COMES INTO MY CLASS, I always ask myself how I would feel if I were new and try to put myself in their shoes. I make the effort to go out to them and help them feel welcome. That’s what I did when a new girl arrived in our school.

I showed her around the school and introduced her to the others in our class. At first, she didn’t want to talk much about herself, but then little by little, she started to communicate more with me. However, I soon realized that this girl was a little special, different from others.

She started taking things from my pencil case and pestered me during class. When it was the moment to turn in her work, she would ask me many questions about it and try to get me to help her.

At first, I thought that I had to keep on loving by helping her with her lessons. I said yes to whatever she asked me and even photocopied my notebook for her. But after a while, I realized that she was taking advantage of me and **that was very painful.**



One day during a computer class, she started annoying me and getting me distracted from the lesson. At that point, **I just couldn’t take it anymore and I «exploded» at her, telling her everything I didn’t like about the way she was behaving with me.**

She started crying and said that no one loved her, and that I had deceived her into thinking that I was her friend. She said she didn’t want to go on living anymore.

In the midst of her tears, she told me for the first time the real reason she had come to our school. Both her parents and grandparents were divorced. In the previous school she got into fights with everyone. That’s why they transferred her to this school and put her in an institute for children who have no family.

In that moment I felt really sorry for her. I realized that her behavior was caused by her great desire for love, by the need to feel loved by someone.

K. (SLOVENIA)

