

A LOVE THAT... KNOWS HOW TO BE ALERT.

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

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

FROM GERMANY



THIS IS NOT JUST ORDINARY CANDY

Some time ago we heard about the terrible floods in Pakistan.

We decided we wanted to give our contribution to help in this emergency. And before we even had time to ask permission to set up our stand at a strategic point of the city, we got a visible sign that we were on the right path! A businessman heard about our initiative and let us set up our tables in front of his store! So we could sell our homemade chocolates right there!

Dressed in aprons, gloves and hairnets, and instructed in all the appropriate hygienic procedures, we set to work to pack our specialties.

The weather on the day of the sale was not very encouraging for an outdoor stand! It was dreary, rainy and cold. But our production of sixty packages of 4 to 7 pieces of candy completely sold out! As we waited for our customers, we offered to shine the shoes of people passing by and made a profit in this way, too. That same evening the ice cream parlor across the street also decided to give us a big donation for Pakistan.



LET'S AIM HIGHER, BEYOND ALL FRONTIERS, LET'S USE OUR TALENTS TO SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED AROUND THE WORLD.

«TRULY I TELL YOU, IF TWO OF YOU AGREE ON EARTH ABOUT ANYTHING YOU ASK, IT WILL BE DONE FOR YOU BY MY FATHER IN HEAVEN. FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED IN MY NAME, I AM THERE AMONG THEM» (Mt 18:19-20)

From a commentary by Chiara Lubich – Adapted by the Gen 3 Center

The prayer we are talking about here is quite unique because it has to be offered by at least two persons, by a "community." Then they will be answered. Jesus says: "If two of you..." Only two! Two is the smallest number that can constitute a "community." He says that they have to be united, of one accord, unanimous in their request. Therefore, the condition for receiving what we ask for is that we love one another.



A TRULY UNIQUE PRAYER

You might wonder why prayers offered in unity are more pleasing to the Father. The reason is that such prayers have been purified. For isn't it true that when we pray on our own, we often ask things only for ourselves? Instead if we ask for something together with others, we are more likely to be open to the needs of others and share their concerns.



THE SECRET OF THIS PRAYER'S SUCCESS

It's summed up in those words, "gathered in my name." When we are united like this, he is present among us, and whatever we ask together with him we are much more likely to receive. Jesus himself is present wherever mutual love unites our hearts, and so he is the one who asks the Father together with us for the graces we seek. Can you imagine the Father not listening to Jesus? The Father and Jesus are one.



ASK WITHOUT ANY LIMITS

Make an agreement with all those around you who understand and share your ideals. Promise to love one another as the Gospel requires. Be very united, so that Jesus will be present with you, and then ask. Ask as much as you can. Ask during the liturgy. Ask in church. Ask anywhere at all. Ask before making a decision. Ask for anything!