

Wednesday

Dear diary,



One day, when I arrived in my classroom, the teacher asked who wanted to sit next to Franc.

He is a very poor boy. In fact, his family lives in a garage, in a neighborhood that doesn't have a very good reputation.

At school last year he only changed his clothes two or three times the whole year. He looks neglected and smells bad.

None of us wanted to be near him ...

I had a hard time accepting him too, also because by sitting next to him, I would have to help him with all the assignments, and give him a lot of attention, and so I wouldn't have much time left for myself.

To tell you the truth, at that moment I was also very worried about the test we were going to have in the next class.



Tomorrow I will suggest to all my friends to take a look in their closets and see if they have any clothes that they no longer use, and that Franc might appreciate having.

But the voice of Jesus was strong within me. It took all my will power to tell my teacher that I would sit next to Franc.

I confess that having taken this step gave me so much joy! And I could also see that it gave Franc a bit of happiness, too.

Thursday, 4pm
do math homework with Franc at his house.



>> Take the initiative!

WORD OF LIFE

10

Rom 13:8

«OWE NO ONE ANYTHING, EXCEPT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER; FOR THE ONE WHO LOVES ANOTHER HAS FULFILLED THE LAW.»

IF WE WANT TO DO THE WILL OF GOD WELL, WE MUST ALWAYS KEEP MUTUAL LOVE IN MIND. IT'S THE GOAL GOD WANTS US TO REACH BY LIVING THE COMMANDMENTS.



MUTUAL LOVE:

WE WANT

TO BE

THE FIRST

TO LOVE.

MUTUAL LOVE IS LIKE A DEBT WE OWE TO OTHERS. WE HAVE TO BE GENEROUS, SINCERE, ATTENTIVE TO THEIR NEEDS, AND GIVE THEM OUR TRUST AND ESTEEM. A DEBT MUST BE PAID, WE CANNOT PUT IT OFF OR IGNORE IT. IT URGES US ON, AND IMPELS US. IT WILL NOT LEAVE US IN PEACE UNTIL WE PAY IT.



AS ST. PAUL SAYS, WE OWE MUTUAL LOVE TO ONE ANOTHER, AND SO WE SHOULD BE THE FIRST TO LOVE, AS JESUS DID WITH US. WE SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN LOVING WITHOUT WAITING FOR OUR NEIGHBOR TO LOVE US, WITHOUT PUTTING IT OFF.

EVERY TIME I TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN LOVING AND DO SOMETHING CONCRETE FOR OTHERS, OR TRY TO UNDERSTAND THEM WHEN THEY MAKE A MISTAKE, OR WHEN I'M PATIENT WITH SOMEONE OR GENEROUS...

I WILL COLOR ONE OF THIS COINS...

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

