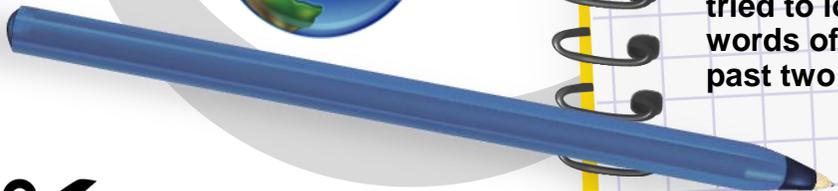


Let's live like this!

A shared commitment



We are part of a group of teenagers from a city in northern Italy and a while ago, we decided to live the New Commandment of Jesus together. We want to love one another as he loved us so that we can build a piece of the united world right here, among us. To be concrete about it, every two weeks we meet at my house to spend some time together and share with each other how we each tried to love and live the words of the Gospel in the past two weeks.

Sharing our experiences is very important for us. In fact, it helps to reinforce the unity among us and overcome any difficult moments. By trying to put the words of the Gospel into practice, we discover how beautiful it is to love anyone who comes our way. For example, we give up our seat on the bus to an elderly person, or speak to a person who is waiting with us on the corner for the light to change, or help a classmate who can't resolve a math problem or who is going through a tough time at school, or give special attention to a classmate who tends to bully others, or love our brothers or sisters who share the bedroom with us, or, even though this seems strange, we try to love the teachers we don't really like!

Of course, our experiences won't be written up in the history books! But the joy of unity that is created with these other people and among us, and that we want to share with hundreds of other teens, repays us 100 times over for all the effort we sometimes have to put into building it.

Mirco, Alex, Mario and Vincenzo



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I WILL SHARE WITH OTHERS HOW I TRY TO LOVE

«Live in love» (Eph 5:2)

The apostle Paul wrote these words as a conclusion to all he just wrote about how to live as Christians. He told them they need to leave aside their "old self" and live as a "new person," by continuing to love always and starting over every time they make a mistake.

Who is St. Paul writing to?

To the Christians in Ephesus. It was one of the first Christian communities.

Can we too live like they did?

Yes, by being honest with one another, by not stealing, by forgiving others, by doing many acts of love...

Since the invitation is directed toward the whole community, it would also be important to help one another on the "journey!"

How can we do that?

We can start by finding an opportunity to declare our love to one another – with our friends, our relatives or with the members of our Christian community. We can express in words our desire to go ahead together, so that we can learn from one another.

"In my community I will find an opportunity to tell the others, once again, that I am committed to loving one another and I will share my experiences of how I loved."



I shared concrete acts of love with my community as a way to help everyone.