

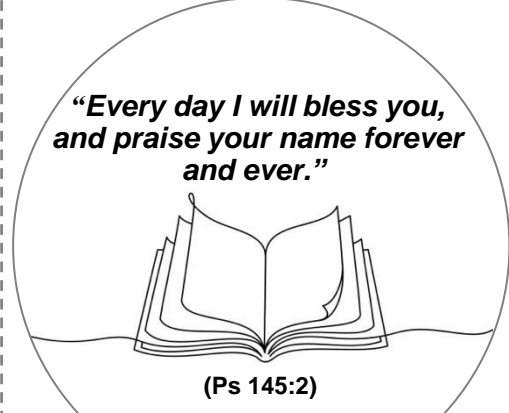


## WORD of LIFE

# «YOUR PRESENCE IN MY HEART»

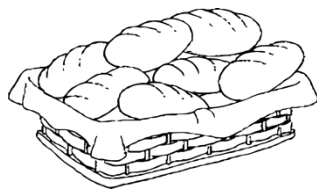


Words of Pope John Paul II,  
July 2, 2003



This psalm announces a truth that fills us with great hope.

**«GOD IS THE CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. HE IS THE ONE WHO BRINGS JUSTICE TO THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED.**



**« HE PROVIDES FOOD TO SUSTAIN THE HUNGRY AND SETS PRISONERS FREE. HE OPENS THE EYES OF THE BLIND AND RAISES UP THOSE WHO HAVE FALLEN. HE LOVES THOSE WHO ARE JUST, PROTECTS THE FOREIGNER AND SUPPORTS THE WIDOW AND THE ORPHAN.».**



M. Vandeleene, I, my neighbor, God, in the thought of C. Lubich

This Word of Life suggests that we spend time on our personal relationship with God, welcoming his love and his mercy into our hearts, and being ready to hear his voice.



**Listening to his words and living them has to be the foundation for all our prayers.**

Love for God is always linked to love for our neighbor.

**When we «imitate» God our Father by loving others in concrete ways, and in particular those most in need of our love, like those who are all alone, we begin to feel God's presence in our heart.**

Chiara Lubich summed it up saying: **«...This is my experience: the more we love other people, the more we find union with God. And the more we find union with God, the more we love other people.»**

**But there is another way to find him.** For some years now, people all over the world have become aware of the urgent need to protect the environment.



We teens and children can be leaders in bringing about a change of mentality. **We can propose a simpler lifestyle with less waste.** We can promote the rights of everyone on earth to have access to food, water and clean air. We can support every effort to find alternative power sources.



In this way, people will not only reestablish a relationship with nature, but will also **praise God when they discover with amazement how much he loves all of creation.**

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Adapted by Teens4Unity from the Word of Life written by **Augusto Parody Reyes** and his team