

“Looking for our ways out”

It happens to us that we have to make decisive choices in life, which compromise our conscience and our whole being. Sometimes we see many possible ways ahead and we feel uncertain because we do not know which one is the best; at other times we seem not to see any.

We are overwhelmed and sometimes even distressed and we feel in danger in front of our 'enemies'. We would like to find a way out of that painful situation, but we experience our impotence.

Then according to the beliefs of each one, we implore with the hope that some solution comes to our aid.

THE IDEA OF THE MONTH this time, highlights in a particular way, the importance of seeking and knowing the ways, especially as a light for one's own choices in difficult moments.

Finding a way to advance is something deeply human, and sometimes we need to ask for help from who we consider a friend.

The ways of Love are audacious, sometimes they seem to be at the limit of our possibilities. These roads face selfish customs, prejudices, false humility and open horizons for dialogue, encounter and commitment for the common good. Above all, they demand always new love, which also includes forgiveness. It is the inalienable condition to establish relations of justice and peace between people and peoples. The testimony of a simple but authentic gesture of love can illuminate the path in the hearts of others. In Nigeria, during a meeting in which young people and adults shared personal experiences of love, Maya, a girl, reported: *“Yesterday, while we were playing, a boy pushed me and made me fall. He asked me for forgiveness and I forgave him”*.

These words opened the heart of a man whose father had been killed by the terrorist group Boko Haram: *“If Maya, who is a girl, can forgive, I can also forgive her”*.

Addressing the young people gathered in Santiago de Compostela at the World Youth Day in 1989, Chiara Lubich encouraged them with these words: *“... from morning to evening, all relationships with others must be lived with this love. At home, at university, at work, on the sports field, during vacations, at church, on the street ... we have to take advantage of the different occasions of loving others as we love ourselves, without ignoring anyone, and being the first to love. Enter as deeply as possible in the mood of the other, truly understand their problems, their demands and their joys, to be able to share everything with them”*.