commentary by Chiara Lubich. April 1980 4Unity Center, Rome. Italy

Vord of Life



My night knows no darkness.

When I was a teenager, I asked why I hadn't died at birth, because it was so hard to live with my disability. My parents, who lived the Word of Life, always told me the same thing: «Anne, God loves you immensely and he has a very special plan for your life.»



They helped me not to be closed in on myself and totally blocked by my physical limitations. They encouraged me to «be the first to love», just like God was the first to love us.

Doing this, I've seen many situations around me change for the better. People become more open to me and to others. My dad prepared a personal message for me to read after he died. He had written just one sentence: **«My night knows no darkness.»**



This has been my daily experience because every time I choose to love and serve those around me, there is no more darkness and I really experience God's love for me.

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«Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, (...) I will not believe.» This is what Thomas said, since he had not been present when Jesus appeared to the other apostles. He represented all the people who would come after the time of Jesus, who would have to believe without seeing.

"Blessed are those who have not seen but have come to believe" (Jn 20:29).

What does Jesus want to teach us with these words?

He was speaking about you and about all the people who did not live when he was on earth. He wants to impress on us the certainty that **we possess him just as much as the apostles did.**

Jesus is telling you that you are not at a disadvantage compared to those who actually saw him. In fact, you have faith and this is the new way of «seeing» Jesus.



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Where can we meet him now?

We can approach him, understand him and meet him in the depths of our heart. We can discover him wherever two or more people are united in his name. We can find him in the Church, which continues his life here on earth.



What is faith for you?

These words of Jesus are an invitation **to revive our faith in him,** not to doubt the presence of Jesus in our lives and in the world, **even though at times he may seem far away from us.**



Did you ever doubt that he loved you??

He wants us to believe in his love, even if we find ourselves in difficult situations or feel overwhelmed by things that seem impossible to overcome».