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engl.

Do you love me?

(John 21:16)

Credo or I give (you) my heart!

„Freunde des Wortes“

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Dear friends of the word,

It's not an everyday occurrence that someone asks you: Do you love me? - This question is only 'permitted' between people who are in love with each other. It suggests that the person asking the question is 'in love'! Do you know who asks this question? - It's Jesus, and he's asking one of his best friends: “ Peter, do you love me?” Peter had disowned Jesus three times a few days earlier. “ You know that I love you!” he answers, again, three times. Thereby he offers his 'credo', he tells Jesus: “I-give-you-my-heart”!

A young student had taken part in a spiritual retreat. On the last the last evening the father had spoken about the story of the rich young man. What he said became her 'to-take-home-message'. The question was: what is 'bad', what is 'dangerous' about being rich. “Wealth makes dependent and unfree because you have something to loose” she had heard and she wrote: “How often has this sentence come to my mind over the last few days. I have the gift of God's love and that is great. I don't 'deserve' this! It came for free – out of grace. But how quickly do we take it for granted. Then my wealth is similar to that of the young man. If Jesus calls, he'll only hear the engaged sound. When I understood that, I had an idea. ' Give all the things I'm attached to to Jesus', and so I prayed: 'Lord, I give everything into your hands, your will be done!' This prayer brought great joy to me and I understood: **If I give everything to God, then he'll give me his all, himself.** The happiness in me was a trace of his nearness!”

Dear friends of the word, our heart is inclined to become attached to things that aren't God. Then it is engaged, full and 'rich'. There's hardly any room left for God. Let's be brave and empty our hearts in order to give it to HIM. He wants to fill it with real love, because he's in love with you. Tell him everyday: **Credo – I give you my heart!**

For the OnWordTeam

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