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englisch

Give, and it will be given to you. (Luke 6:38)

Together – what could be better?

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Dear friends of the word,

It was late in the evening on Good Friday. Because in France this day isn't a bank holiday, she couldn't leave before 6pm. She arrived at 11pm. Two of us picked her up at the station. She had made the journey because she wanted to attend a business event of a company her friend was working for. It had been a while since the two had last met. When they saw each other a deep and infectious joy was tangible immediately. The next day was Easter Saturday and together with some young people, we prepared for the Easter celebrations. Elodie, who comes from a small town near Paris, was immediately part of it. She contributed and 'gave herself' wherever she could.

The Easter Vigil began. Her friend received the sacrament of confirmation. It was a moving moment. I saw Elodie, she was deeply emotional and her eyes seemed like the 'gates to heaven', full of peace and joy. Two days later she was back in Paris and she wrote: "You know, I was a little sad because I had forgotten what the presence of God really means for my life. Now I know that I can ask him for anything, simply because he's there, and I know that I'm always invited to also pray for other people. This I discovered during those days."

I thought about Madeleine Delbrel who, in her early years, had discovered that one can love God as one loves another person. This had completely changed her life. Elodie had experienced the same kind of happiness. Full of joy she went out to meet Jesus in the people of her town. Everyone she saw, she recommended to God in a prayer.

"Give and it will be given to you!" Jesus had advised his disciples and he added: A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. I saw this 'good measure' in Elodie's eyes. She had given, she had travelled hundreds of miles to attend her friends celebration. God had touched her heart anew. She had received, a good measure, pressed down and shaken together. Giving love is always real and concrete. Therefore: **Be concrete!**

For the OnWordTeam

Meinolf Wacker