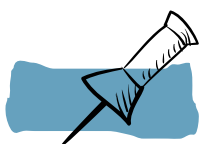


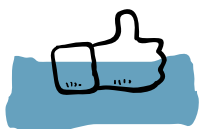
We will be happy if... we will love justice

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Mt 5:6)



Goal

To become aware of the possibility to commit oneself, as individuals or as a group, to realize justice worldwide.



How did it go?

At the start, there is a moment of welcome, wherein it is important to allow space for dialogue and the sharing of what each one has lived, the experiences made, and the difficulties encountered. To welcome means to make each one feel accepted and be at ease: creativity will help us find the best ways. We may recall the aims set at the last meeting: "How did it go?"



Introductory activity

"INJUSTICE IN THE WORLD"

TIME: about 45 minutes

MATERIALS: world map (photocopy or drawing), newspapers/magazines or cell phone or notebook with connections, watercolor or red pencils

PROCEDURE: Photocopy or draw a world map; then using news from newspapers or Internet, color red the countries in which justice is clearly trampled upon by wars, dictatorships, lack of food, water...How big is the surface colored red compared to the part left in white? What conclusions can you make? You can also make interviews to get the opinion of parents, relatives, passersby, merchants of your district, experts.

CONCLUSION: Leave space for dialogue by asking some questions. What new learning did we get from this activity? How important do you think is the contribution of each person to realize justice in the world?





We live this way

This year I received a very high mark in school to merit a scholarship, which the institute grants to the "first" of each class at the end of the school year. But I noticed that my classmate who got the second place, and so did not get the scholarship, needed it more than I did. In fact, without it, he could not go on studying and his mother was already thinking of taking him out of school. *As a Gen 3, I learned how to live by "providence" that had always helped me.* It was a moment to love my classmate concretely. It was more justice for him to receive the money. So I went to the school principal to propose an exchange: I will take the second place and offer the first place to that boy. Everything should have taken place in the

greatest secrecy so that no one would notice it. The principal accepted it. *In the end, I was happy to have the chance to love Jesus in that classmate, who was poorer, and to build unity with him.* You can't imagine my joy when at the moment I had to enroll for the next course, my father received an unexpected "providence" just for my studies!

(E. - Colombia)



In profondità


«TO OBTAIN THE HUNDREDFOLD»



Jesus said: "Blessed are the pure of heart because they will see God," but many people say that you can get much more by telling lies, by tricking people, by being corrupt. More than anything else, you can get a lot of money, much more than by being honest. Chiara, what advice can you give us?



I think that people who want money, who do all they can to have lots of money are not the lucky ones. Just look at what happened to that rich man in the Gospel: he ended up in hell, while Lazarus who was poor, went to heaven, so he was the lucky one. What is really good is not having a lot of money or a lot of things. What is really good is loving and doing what is right.

This is what we must do. You might say: then we'll always be poor! No, we won't! The Gospel says: "Seek first the kingdom of God – which means: try to love – and all the rest will be given to you" – this is the "Providence" that arrives. So we'll have a hundred times as much even of things on earth, and then eternal life too. 

Chiara Lubich, Castelgandolfo, June 22, 2000 - Gen 3 Congress (f. and m. 9-12 yrs.)



In depth

«AGAINST HUNGER, LET'S CHANGE LIFE»



*Luigino Bruni (economist),
Congress Gen 3 (f.) (13/17 yrs.old),
Castelgandolfo, February 3, 2005*




We know that the problem in developing countries is the unequal distribution of wealth. How can we improve this situation and make people aware of it? Above all, what can we do to help the poorest countries?

I think that poverty will be eliminated if the rich will change lives. It is unthinkable a world without poverty that does not produce or lead to a change of the rich world to become less rich. This is impossible. Until the rich world remains as it is, and will not give, and will not question one's own wealth to help the poor,

then poverty will never be solved. It will always be a rhetorical question. It's a topic that is going on for at least 50 years and is getting worse. In fact, in some parts of the world, the situation has worsened after 50 years of helping the poor. Why? There's a very beautiful slogan of the past years that I wish to propose

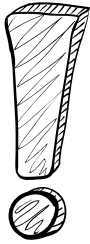
to you: "Against hunger, change life." It means that if you don't change your life, meaning that if you don't become sober, less consumeristic, hunger, poverty will not be solved. It's a dream, it's an illusion to think of it, they remain nice words. Therefore, against poverty we change life. But we have to change it together with others. If we want to impact the world of the powerful, those who make the big decisions, we must stay together and act with others. Certain great goals are realized because we stay together with others. This means, for example, to become friends of all the youth who live for a more just world and they are many; or to go to the commercial centers that practice fair prices. To be in solidarity with these people, to buy

sometimes from them, to be connected with those who live a better world and they are many.

There are very many young people, and not so young, who live for a better world, because alone in this kind of civil struggle – in the best sense of the word – they cannot win through. We, too, in the Movement, cannot do it alone because the problem of poverty is too big. While adults cooperate with others through the Economy of Communion, even you who are young, to become many, can make friends with all those who already live this way. 



We will be happy if...
WE WILL LOVE JUSTICE



We will try!

To deepen the topic also with other youth, we can visit the business of an entrepreneur of the Economy of Communion. Do you know one? Try to contact him or her and plan this activity to make the Teens for Unity in your city more aware.

We can look beyond the limits of our city and create justice also with those who live in other continents. Here is a proposal for an activity:

- Identify a project **TEENS FOR TEENS** and a concrete action to do to support it. Information is available on the website of AMU (Association for a United World)

<http://www.amu-it.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2016-Progetti-AMU-Teens.pdf>



At what point are we?

To reach a goal, we must practice daily and keep note of the positive changes and the difficulties encountered.

This will help us until the next meeting when we shall allot time for sharing our experiences.

Were we able to link with other persons who live for a more just world?

What occasions did I take advantage of in order to know or to involve others?

Whom did I get involved?

What concrete step did we choose to realize together?



For The Gen Assistant



Evaluation after the meeting

- Did the proposed activities increase the youth's interest for this beatitude?
- Has a particular area emerged from the Gen 3 in which they feel it is difficult to live justice?
- What commitment have they taken to live it? Aim at accompanying and supporting them in their commitment until the next meeting.
- Do I consider the topic finished or is there still something to discuss at the next meeting?
- Did difficulties arise? What must we keep in mind to improve next time?