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englisch

## **Go into all the world and teach the gospel to every creature**

(Mark 16:15)

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### **Be a gift!**

Dear friends of the word!

I met her for the first time in the synagogue of Oswiecim/Auschwitz. As a young german woman she'd decided to spend a year as a volunteer in this european wound. She guided a group of german pupils through an exhibition about jewish life in Oswiecim. My eyes filled with tears when I heard her talking about the friendship between a young local woman and jewish woman of similar age during the occupation in the 1940ties. Her heart was burning for the unity of mankind and for the life of everyone.

In the same year she decided to take part in a go4peace-camp. As a student she'd spend a year in Paris and spoke fluent french. During her volunteer year in Poland she – her family roots going back to Silesia – she'd learned polish. Later I found out that she'd taken part in a seminar regarding french-german-polish youth meetings. A real european citizen.

Again and again I saw a deep glow in her eyes. Her heart burned with love for every person, particularly the 'little' people. In an unobtrusive way she created nearness and space. “It was late, around 11pm. It was dark as I was waiting in the station. A young woman approached me. At first I didn't know if I should stay or go away. She spoke to me and said that her wallet had been stolen and that she was being harassed by some people. I remembered the motto of the day. *Turn darkness into light!*

I didn't know if the woman was speaking the truth, but I could tell that she didn't want to be on her own in this moment. I therefore stayed with her, made some conversation and gave her the money for the next train. Full of gratitude she asked for my name. Eventually my train arrived and as I was boarding I heard my name “Theresa” and then a deeply felt “Thank You!”.

“Go into all the world and teach the gospel to every creature”. Theresa's life speaks to people – often without words. She is a gift to those who meet her. **Be a gift!**

For the OnWordTeam

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