



Dear young people:

BE REVOLUTIONARIES



POPE FRANCIS AT WORLD YOUTH DAY

"REBEL AGAINST THIS CULTURE THAT SEES EVERYTHING AS TEMPORARY."

"GOD HAS PLACED IN THE HEART OF EVERY MAN AND WOMAN AN IRREPRESSIBLE DESIRE FOR HAPPINESS, FOR FULFILLMENT,"



FROM THE VATICAN, 31 JANUARY 2015
CHARLES COLLINS

Pope Francis writes the search for happiness is shared by people of all times and all ages.

"Dear young men and women, in Christ you find fulfilled your every desire for goodness and happiness," continues the Holy Father. "He alone can satisfy your deepest longings, which are so often clouded by deceptive worldly promises."

The Pope calls on young people to not let the "precious treasure" of the ability to love and beloved to be debased, destroyed or spoiled.

"In encouraging you to rediscover the beauty of the human vocation to love, I also urge you to rebel against the widespread tendency to reduce love to something banal, reducing it to its sexual aspect alone, deprived of its essential characteristics of beauty, communion, fidelity and responsibility," writes Pope Francis.

I ask you, instead, to be revolutionaries, I ask you to swim against the tide;

yes, I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes you are incapable of responsibility, that believes you are incapable of true love."

The Pope also invites young people to encounter Christ in the Scriptures, by reading a line or two of the Gospels each day.

"You will discover that God can be 'seen' also in the face of your brothers and sisters, especially those who are most forgotten: the poor, the hungry, those who thirst, strangers, the sick, those imprisoned (cf. Mt 25:31-46). Have you ever had this experience?" writes the Pope.

"Dear young people, in order to enter into the logic of the Kingdom of Heaven, we must recognize that we are poor with the poor," Pope Francis continues. "A pure heart is necessarily one which has been stripped bare, a heart that knows how to bend down and share its life with those most in need."