

(From Mo. Marguerite Guillot Conferences to the Novices)

FIDELITY TO GRACE – April 27, 1866

Take the habit of offering to our Lord all the actions of the day, all the works that you will have to do, all the sorrows and all the joys that you will encounter therein, and your actions thus offered to God, your entire life will be animated by divine love, everything in it, however small it may be, will please the heart of our Lord.

Actually, it is not the greatness of our actions which pleases our Divine Master but the intention that animates them. You remember the words of St. Theresa saying that, *“it is worth more to pick up a piece of straw from the ground by obedience, than to fast on bread and water for an entire year through self-will”*. A soul which is careful to act only for love of God is very pleasing to our Lord and gains many merits even if it were doing only small things; it is thus that we must act for we do not have the opportunity to do great things but we must endeavor to do as perfectly as possible those things which make up our life. Then, grace would not so often be sterile in us, and it would produce all the fruit that God expects of it. Consider, my dear Sisters, how we are inundated with graces, you especially who receive them so abundantly in the instructions, readings, and directions that are given you. How guilty you would be if you did not correspond to them.

Every time that grace is offered you, that is, at every moment when a thought or a word come knocking at your soul, profit by it and let this passing inspiration, this thought, or word which refreshes you like the zephyr blowing in the desert, not be obliged to return to God without having accomplished its work. Remember that grace has been bought by the blood of our Lord; do not let it be lost, nor abuse it, but make it productive and fruitful by your faithful correspondence to it.
