

I HATE THIS BURDEN!

*Adapted from the script of Spanish Audiovisual
by P.Ribes, sj.*

Intent of the Story/

- ✓ *Life is not a burden but a joyous adventure.*
- ✓ *Life's purpose is to share our love, peace and happiness with others.*
- ✓ *There is more joy in giving than in receiving..*

The Story.

There was a disgruntled man who felt compelled to carry throughout life a heavy basket on his shoulders. Actually he did not know what was he carryng in the basket..

Our man was disgruntled and unhappy. He hated life. He bewailed:" I have nothing good to offer others. No! Nothing at all, except my misery".

He did not speak to people, nor smiled to anyone. Yet, strangely enough, everybody seemed to like him. People smiled at him and tried to come close to him.

Our man was puzzled. He muttered to himself : "It's strange! How can people like me, why do they smile at me, why do they want to come closer to me? I wonder!"

One day, walking on the road, absentmindedly, he stumbled and fell headlong to the ground and his basket flung over his head.. Then, Oh wonder of wonders! Countless beautiful, colorful and scented flowers cascaded from his basket all around.

Then only, in surprise he understood why people smiled at him and liked to come close to him. In joy he said to God: "Lord, what a bitter joke you played on me. All along my life, in sadness and despair, unawares, I have been scattering scent and beauty around me for one and all to enjoy and see, and I never knew"

Then in dancing and joy cried out: "Oh God, never too late I discovered that my burden in life was not a burden, but the joy of scattering love, goodness and happiness around for all to enjoy.

Reflect on These Sayings.

- Happiness it's not confined in one place, it's found all over!
- Happiness is a mind-set, not a set of circumstances.
- Happiness is an inside job.
- Happiness is what you are
- Unfortunately, most people lead lives of quiet desperation.
- The best way to be happy is to make others happy.
- There is greater joy in giving than in receiving.
- You can be as happy as you wish to be.

