My dissertation focuses on the personality of Henri Groues, who later adopted the pseudonym Abbé Pierre, and his achievement: the foundation of the Emmaüs movement. In the first chapter, I introduce the reader to the topic and structure of the dissertation and I mention problems usually encountered by those addressing this topic. The second chapter describes the personality of Henri Groues and his influence on the Emmaüs movement. The following chapter deals with problematic aspects of Abbé Pierre's personality, i.e. his media image and relationship with the church. Finally, the last chapter is devoted to the foundation and development of the Emmaüs movement from their own perspective.