

Day Fifteen

Awakening to God's Presence

We must love others
because, like us,
they are created in
God's own image and likeness.
We must love others
because our God is their God too,
and God wants us to love them.
This was the most important lesson
that Jesus Christ gave to us.
As he said, this is the only way
people would really know
that we are serious about following him.
We must love others
even as we love ourselves.
Our self-love may be sincere and constant;
still, Jesus remains our model.
Examine Jesus' love for others.
Love marked his whole life,
especially in the way he presented himself
and in his patience with others.
He gave whatever he had to offer
to all who needed him.
His love, kindness, and attentiveness
extended to all, without distinction.
He cared for everyone,
and did good even to those against him.
We may not have the same affection
for enemies as for friends.
But, we must not exclude them from our prayer,
and we must pardon them.
This is the love to which we are called.

Living by God's Grace

Study Jesus' love for others.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
deepen my understanding
of Jesus' way to love others,
that I might care for them and encourage them
on their way to union with God.
Lord, thank you for this day,
for those who love and care for me,
and for those I have the privilege to love.
May I see that I am worthy of love,
and growing in my capacity to love.
Tomorrow will come quickly
with its flood of people and situations.
Give me patience with them.
Fill me with kindness and a spirit of helpfulness.
Let me love them.
I want to be Jesus' presence for others.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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