



Day Sixteen

Awakening to God's Presence

Jesus called us to love.
That's not a theory.
In fact, it's hard work.
Love must be many things to be real.
Love is:
Patient.
So, we accept whatever burdens
come to us from others,
without burdening them in return.
Kind.
That makes us honest,
considerate, pleasant, and
having an openness to all.
Encouraging.
So, we are not to be envious or jealous of others' good fortune.
Rather, we wish them every blessing, and hope for
even greater fortune for them.
Pure.
We are attentive to self and others.
We attend to ourselves so that any tone of voice or gesture
that would offend can be avoided.
We pay attention to others so we can know
what might hurt them and stay clear of it.
The day should not end
without asking pardon
for any word or deed of ours
that may have hurt or offended others.
Such is what love must be.
When our love is in God and for God,
we free ourselves from
the inconsistent friendship this world promotes.
We love even as we are called to love by Jesus.

Living by God's Grace

Love as God has loved.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
refashion my heart through love
so that I may be a loving presence
in every situation, and for everyone.
Forgive my failures of this day, God.
Touch them with your grace
so that the faith and hope of others
may not be shaken by my faults.
Let me not fail to forgive
anyone who may have hurt me.
I don't want anger festering in my heart.
Let me begin anew tomorrow,
with enthusiasm and confidence.
I am convinced about your constant love
and your endless delight in humanity.
I want to be love in this world.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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