

EXPERIENCING the POWER of “ONE ACCORD”

“...they lifted up their voice to God with one accord...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:24, 31-33 (KJV)



This Week’s Thought – May 29, 2016

“Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” John 13:34 (NIV)

There are times in all of our lives when we stand at the crossroads of love and self-protection. We can choose self-sacrifice and selflessness or selfishness and comfort. At these times, love requires great courage. This crossroad can come during relational conflict, when health problems or financial worries strain a relationship—or when we aren’t sure if the love we give a child, grandchild, friend, mate, neighbor, or coworker will be returned.

During these times, we must remember that when Christ calls us to love, we need to follow His example of courage. Jesus loved sinners. He loved those who wouldn’t return His love. He loved those who would break His heart.

“God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

When Christ stood at the crossroads of love and self-protection, He chose love. He was able to love selflessly and avoid the trap of self-protection because He lived to please His father; He lived to do the will of the one who sent Him (John 4:34).

Loving someone with no promise of any return is a sacred kind of love. That kind of love takes faith. It takes being willing to follow Christ’s example to lay down your life. It takes a courageous heart.

"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)

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Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “Learn to relate to others through my Love rather than yours. Your human love is ever so limited, full of flaws and manipulation. My loving Presence, which always enwraps you, is available to bless others as well as you. Instead of trying harder to help people through your own limited resources, become aware of My unlimited supply, which is accessible to you continually. Let My Love encompass your outreach to other people.” (Psalm 36:5; Exodus 33:14)

“And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King