

Relentless

Day 25



Today's Passage

"Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!"

1st Peter 4:10-11 *The Message*

Today's Thought

Serving God is our way of loving him as we are loving others. I suppose this was the lesson that my older sister was trying to pass on to my niece. The preschooler understood that God made the trees, and the flowers, and even agreed that God had made her, but there was one part she couldn't comprehend. How do you hug him?

Don't get caught up in the cuteness of the question without really understanding what she was saying; "If God loves me, and I know he does, how do I love him back?" How do I go about hugging God?

Let's place this question before the Apostle Peter who wrote today's passage...How do we hug God? Notice his answer...in fact it's got three parts. Don't fear I only have about three inches of typing space left, not enough for a long sermon...

First, love each other as if your life depended on it. I like that expression. Don't just love people...love them on purpose. Love them like your life depended on it. Try this today...find a complete stranger and love them to this degree. Then step back and see what God can do through a love like this.

Second, love makes up for practically anything. Can't find the right thing to say? Don't know how to meet the need? Have you messed up but didn't mean to? Guess what love relentlessly. It works!

Third, love as if God was loving through you, and you were loving him right back. Look who gets included in this group hug; the other person, God, and you.

So guess how my sister answered my little niece's theological difficulty; "How do I hug God?" She simply smiled and said; "You just did." Serving relentlessly is all about hugging God while you are hugging others.

Today's Prayer

Lord, give me an opportunity to show my love for you today. Help me to step up and embrace this opportunity to not only love because that person may need it, let me love because I need it, and you desire it. I want to hug you, by hugging others.