



Weekly Devotion

Experiencing Consistent Love

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

God places incredible emphasis on love. He clarifies that love is the driving power that makes all our natural and spiritual resources effective. Truly, our gifts and abilities driven without love are largely useless, unfulfilling, and surprisingly damaging. But there are these annoying things that mix with love called feelings; feelings that sometimes determine if we are genuinely loving while at the same time doing the things we do. The awful part about feelings is they can become central to our love, and this shows itself when how we feel decides if we follow through on our commitments and vows to

love others.

I'm certain at this point in life you've seen that your feelings are unpredictable, regularly unruly, and sometimes befuddling. Be that as it may, imagine a scenario where love wasn't something we feel so much as someone we are, uncovered by the things we do or don't do. Furthermore, imagine a scenario in which encountering steady love in our lives was mainly identified with our obligation to love others whether we "felt like it" or not. The result is that we would encounter love in its most perfect, most rewarding way... consistently and flawlessly.

In its most original form, love is a continuum of "in the moment" choices we make to create esteem and bless everyone around us notwithstanding how we feel. It springs from the mindfulness that we are the opportunity for love through our obligation to distinguish the requirements, needs, and dreams of others and to confer with God on the most proficient method to best help others in those things. It is quiet moments of prayer and reflection that the clearness and creativity to cherish others in manners that are significant and proper uncover themselves. For what reason would God let us know the foundation of all things is love and not team up with us in doing so powerfully? He wouldn't.

There's a deep well of exceptional ways of loving if we can contemplate and get creative. Even though it appears to be an abstract way, it tends to be as basic as asking those you've resolved to love for the par-

ticular ways they might want to be loved: tune in, convey, repeat, and reap the results of that. Consistency in communicating love eliminates the presence of manipulation and shows others we are committed regardless of our feelings; that our love for them has become "uppermost in our mind", and that it is essential to us: that they are important to us. Love regardless of how you feel and see how it feels today!

Question: Have I considered that to have more love in my life, it will be through the planting of love that I gain it?

"At the point you view love as a feeling, you'll feel love less frequently."

Dennis Dean

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

Americanisms



"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year."

Vern McLellan

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CONSISTENCY
is not perfection.
It is simply
REFUSING TO GIVE UP

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