



Daily Devotionals

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2 JOHN 1-6 TRUTH AND LOVE

¹ *The elder,*

To the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in the truth—and not I only, but also all who know the truth— ² *because of the truth, which lives in us and will be with us forever:*

³ *Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.*

⁴ *It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us.* ⁵ *And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another.* ⁶ *And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.*

The Truth is love because God is love and he is the source of the Truth. It is an act of love for God to reveal the Truth to those who are otherwise incapable of discerning and knowing the Truth. God accomplished this revelation through his only Son, Jesus Christ and since we neither requested nor deserved that revelation it was an act of grace and mercy. Furthermore, it is also the source of ultimate peace – our eternal reconciliation with God. So, God is “ *with us in truth and love .*”

Jesus is the expression of God's love for humankind, but he is also the pattern for how human beings are to love God. He lived a life of perfect obedience to the Father and commanded us to follow him in that obedience. In his life in the world, Jesus told us that we love God by obeying his commandments (John 14:15, 21). He also demonstrated his love for us, his neighbors, through the incarnation and crucifixion; therefore, he commanded us to love one another (John 34). It follows that if we are to walk in the way of Christ, which is the Truth, then our lives must be characterized by love. This is not a feel-good, or even a be-good kind of love. We are to live lives that are motivated by a selfless, or even self-sacrificial love directed vertically toward God and horizontally toward our neighbors. This is the only way we will experience God powerfully in our lives and in the life of our churches.

Lord Jesus, just before you died you prayed for those who would believe in you after you ascended in to heaven. In that prayer you prayed that we might be one and that through our unity you and the Father would be made known to the world (John 17 20ff). Fill me with a divine love that will faithfully bond me to you and to by brothers and sisters in the Church so that we might manifest the Truth to the world. Amen.

Chuck+