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Daily Devotional - Monday, May 9, 2022 - An Awesome Privilege

MAY 09TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Monday, May 9, 2022 - An Awesome Privilege

Hebrews 7:11-28

Prayer is a truly remarkable privilege, and we must be careful to treat it as such. Have you ever paused to consider why a holy God would condescend to even *listen* to our petitions, let alone answer them? The Lord is so perfect that the smallest hint of sin is incompatible with His presence. Human beings, on the other hand, are inherently sinful. Yet God wants to commune with us, so He made a way for that to be possible.

Before Jesus' death and resurrection, priests repeatedly offered sacrifices to cover the people's transgressions. Animal blood, however, never permanently did away with sin. So God sent His Son to be the perfect "once for all time" atoning sacrifice for everyone who trusts in the Savior (Heb. 7:27). Because Jesus Christ paid our entire sin debt with His precious blood, we can now enter into God's holy presence.

Let's not underestimate the significance of being able to speak with the Lord. As those who have been forgiven of all sin, we are now welcome to draw close to the Father in prayer because His Son is our permanent high priest, eternally covering us in a veil of His righteousness.

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Daily Devotional - May 5, 2022 - Impossible Love Made Possible

MAY 05TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

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[Galatians 5:13-23](#)

Jesus said the two greatest commandments are these: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” ([Matthew 22:37-39](#)). What an overwhelming assignment!

In our own strength, we will find success out of reach, but the Lord has provided a way for Christians to accomplish the impossible. The indwelling Holy Spirit works to produce His fruit in us (Gal. 5:22-23). The first quality listed is love, and the remaining eight are actually descriptions of how it is conveyed.

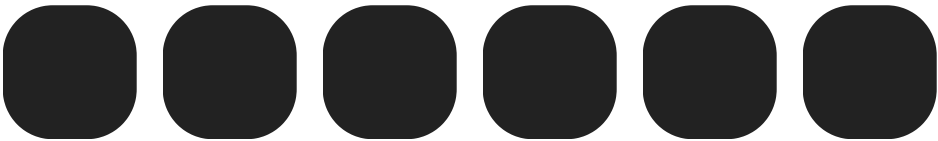
Love isn't produced by trying harder to muster good will toward someone who is irritating or hard to get along with. Instead, think of the process more like sap running through a branch on a grapevine. In a similar way, the Spirit flows through us, producing God's love so we can express it to Him and to others.

Whenever we demonstrate kindness, patience, or gentleness, it's God's doing, not ours. Even the adoration we offer Him isn't something we produce in our own heart apart from His assistance. Though the command to love is enormous, God's grace makes it possible.

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Daily Devotional - Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - Supreme Love

MAY 04TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - Supreme Love

[1 Corinthians 13:1-7](#)

Today's Scripture is commonly known as the love chapter. Interestingly, Paul didn't spell out a definition of love but instead described its importance and expression.

This type of love isn't human in origin; it comes from our heavenly Father and is part of His very nature ([1 John 4:16](#)). What the apostle's describing is an unselfish, sacrificial love that acts on behalf of someone else. God's desire is to transform all believers into the image of Jesus ([Romans 8:29](#)). And we are most like Christ when we display such selfless care for one another.

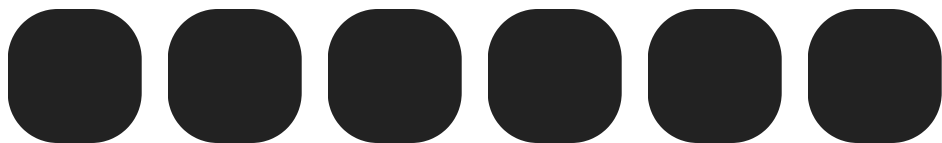
The first three verses of 1 Corinthians 13 issue a warning. Without the motivation of love, all our good deeds—including service for the Lord—will profit us nothing. In God's eyes, a loving spirit is more important than impressive words, knowledge, faith, generosity, and self-sacrifice. When we stand before Christ to be judged for our good works, any deeds done for selfish reasons will not be found worthy of reward.

We're all blind to some degree regarding our motives, so discerning why we serve God or do good deeds can be difficult. Pray to know your heart's hidden intentions, and ask the Lord to replace any self-centered motivations with His more excellent way of love.

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Daily Devotional - Monday, May 2, 2022 -Becoming a Burden Bearer

MAY 02ND 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Monday, May 2, 2022 -Becoming a Burden Bearer

Romans 15:1-7

Every week churches are filled with people experiencing a wide range of problems, and as believers, we're to bear one another's burdens ([Galatians 6:2](#)). This isn't just the job of the pastor—he can't possibly know about every need in the congregation. That's why we're all called to help each other practically and spiritually. But doing this may require some changes on our part.

Awareness. If we're not sensitive to what people are facing, how can we pray for them or offer some kind of support? Ask the Spirit to help you tune in to the struggles of others.

Acceptance. We're to accept fellow believers as Christ has accepted us. That means being willing to share the burdens of others, no matter who they are.

Availability. Helping people may not be convenient, but a faith community thrives when we make time to be there for those around us.

The Lord is the ultimately the one who comforts the hurting and helps the weak, but He often does this through His people. Scripture tells us the whole law is fulfilled in one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself" ([Galatians 5:14](#)). Do you limit your support to family and friends, or do you show love to all your neighbors?

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Daily Devotional - Friday, April 29, 2022 - How to Seek God

APRIL 29TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Daily Devotional - Friday, April 29, 2022 - How to Seek God

[Psalm 105:1-8](#)

Yesterday we learned what it means to seek God, but many of us don't know where to begin.

Start with the Scriptures and prayer. Set aside time each day for meditating on God's Word: Listen for His voice, slowly digest what you read, talk to the Lord, ask Him questions, and apply what you learn. Don't just read the Bible—study it, perhaps starting with a verse or short passage. Some of you may say, "I've never been into that." My advice: Get into it! The deep things of God don't just drop into our brains; they are placed there through diligent study.

Hunger for the Lord is an acquired taste. The more we pursue Him, the greater our craving will be. However, if we ignore God, what little hunger we have will diminish even further.

Do you find this last statement describes your experience? Then ask the Lord to whet your appetite for Him, and follow through by becoming a seeker. This requires time and effort, two things we want to invest wisely.

To neglect the Lord would mean cheating yourself of the benefits He promises to those who diligently seek Him. No one wants to go after that which is fleeting. Choose instead to pursue the Eternal One—the source of all contentment, joy, and hope.

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