Day Fifteen

Awakening to God’s Presence

We must love others because, like us, they are created in God’s own image and likeness. We must love others because our God is their God too, and God wants us to love them. This was the most important lesson that Jesus Christ gave to us. As he said, this is the only way people would really know that we are serious about following him. We must love others even as we love ourselves. Our self-love may be sincere and constant; still, Jesus remains our model. Examine Jesus’ love for others. Love marked his whole life, especially in the way he presented himself and in his patience with others. He gave whatever he had to offer to all who needed him. His love, kindness, and attentiveness extended to all, without distinction. He cared for everyone, and did good even to those against him. We may not have the same affection for enemies as for friends. But, we must not exclude them from our prayer, and we must pardon them. This is the love to which we are called.

Living by God’s Grace

Study Jesus’ love for others.

Acknowledging God’s Gifts
May this night’s rest
deepen my understanding
of Jesus’ way to love others,
that I might care for them and encourage them
on their way to union with God.
Lord, thank you for this day,
for those who love and care for me,
and for those I have the privilege to love.
May I see that I am worthy of love,
and growing in my capacity to love.
Tomorrow will come quickly
with its flood of people and situations.
Give me patience with them.
Fill me with kindness and a spirit of helpfulness.
Let me love them.
I want to be Jesus’ presence for others.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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