

RYF DEVOTION FRIDAY MARCH 27TH, 2020

TODAY'S READING: JOHN 15:12-17

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

REFLECTION

Why does God love us? Often, we slip in to thinking that God love us because Christ died for us. However, this leads us into thinking that God only loves us grudgingly, that He is forced into it. This is not true! Rather, Because God loves us, Christ came and laid down His life for us. The sacrifice of Jesus is the proof of God's love, not the origin. Christ's work has brought us back to God and now we are not mere servants, but beloved friends in the family of God! He has made known to us His Word and those who are in Christ have been appointed to bear enduring fruit (v. 16). So what are we to do with all this? Jesus says it simply: love one another as we have been loved.

PRAYER

If you are a believer, give thanks for God's great love, His steadfast love for His people! Pray that He would enable you to bear enduring fruit and to love believers around you, especially those in your family right now. If you are not a believer, consider what it would mean for the God who created the universe to love you.

FOR FURTHER READING

The Apostle Paul describes Christ's sacrifice while we were still enemies of God in Romans 5:1-11