

RYF DEVOTION TUESDAY MARCH 24TH, 2020

TODAY'S READING: JOHN 14:18-24

18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" 23 Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

REFLECTION

Jesus here repeats His commitment to the disciples and to all who love Him; He will not leave us leaderless. Though Christ "went away" to die on the cross, He was raised from the dead! Because of His work, we are now in God's family and in the words of 1 John 4:19, "We love because He first loved us." The love we now have is why we keep God's word, why we live in obedience. This passages also explains our future hope, that God will come and make His home with us.

PRAYER

If you are a believer, give thanks to God that we have not been left as orphans but have the Holy Spirit as we await Christ's return. Pray also that you would love as you have been loved and be obedient to God's word. Pray for ways to show God's love to your family, friends, and strangers even without seeing them in person. If you are not a believer, consider what it would be like to be in the family of God, where you would be known and loved.

FOR FURTHER READING

John, the author of this Gospel, defines what love is and what that means for us in 1 John 4:7-21