

God with Us Brings Love

Day 13 LOVE PERFECTED

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

What could you accomplish if you harnessed all the energy ever spent on trying to figure out what love is? Can you imagine? The stories, the poems, the plays, the songs. Oh, the songs alone! The hours would total ages. The brainpower would overcome even the cloud-creating, Bitcoin-mining supercomputers of the world. The torrent of Niagara Falls would be a comparative trickle next to the force of the emotion.

Understanding love is understanding the very nature of God. It is a lifelong process of discovery, transformation, and relationship. Living it out is our greatest quest. When we encounter God with Us, we encounter love at its truest, and it begins to change us. We are swept into its cleansing flood, which begins to break apart the dams of our selfishness and fear. If we let it, this love will flow to every dark nook within us, eventually filling us with the traits described by the Apostle Paul in his poignant description of love: patience, kindness, generosity, humility, focus on others, forgiveness, truth, protection, trust, hope, perseverance. Without love, nothing matters – not our greatest feats or grandest gestures. With love, we have everything. This is what God with Us continues to bring into our world and our lives.

How can you show love to those closest to you today? Who around you needs a bit of love? How can you show that person a bit of kind and selfless love?