

Clothed in God's Love

When we are loved by someone, there is always greatest happiness, a sense of satisfaction and peace in our hearts. If this is so with human's conditional love? What about God's love which is unconditional? As humans live side by side, God resides deep within our hearts. As human's expressions of our love visible, so too God's love is tangible and real, as long as one believes and trusts.

God's love is unique and is expressed in a unique way for each one of us. This love of God can be discovered and cherished in the stillness of our hearts. In the 1st book of kings 19: 11-13 Elijah finds God in the gentle breeze, we too must create this stillness within so to find God. For God who created us did not abandon us but rather journeys with us in the ordinary days of our lives.

These are my personal experience where God cares and loves us immensely, in spite of our don't care attitude. God seizes our hearts to make us his messengers of love in the world. God's love is not vague, rather it is tangible. To experience this love one need to believe, trust and accept the means that God sends on our ways. It can be through the word of God, might be a voice of whisper from within, it can be an incident in personal life or it could be a dream as well. For God wishes us to meet in the realities of our lives.

This is how God has communicated his love and this is what invites me to trust in His love. Even today at this time of pandemic, I believe God's presence is in the midst of the world, which is in turmoil and pain.

As a child of 9 I was afraid of death. Shy to share with the others fear of being ridiculed, the only person I could turn was God. In simplicity of my faith, I prayed to God Jesus please give me your word that will help me to face my fears. As I opened the Bible Psalm 91 was the passage I received, until today this Psalm 91 is the anchor of my faith. Indeed, God makes use of our weaknesses in order to help us to face the realities of the future.

God who calls is always faithful. As a 4th grade student, we were asked by our class teacher. What would you like to become in the future? When my turn came my spontaneous answer was to be a nun. When I was planning to join the religious life, my father was dead against. He said religious life is not meant for you. For my dad knows that I was a shy and timid child. But with the support and encouragement of my mother I made my first and final profession. After my final profession when I went home for my holidays, my father said now I believe that you will be happy in the choice that you made and then my mother narrated an incident from her life She said, when she got married; my mother did not have children for long time. Her mother

in law and my beloved grandmother was not happy for not having children. Then she said I prayed to God if you give me many children and choose the one that you wanted for your service. I never said to you all these things for I did not want you to convince or force my choice over you rather I wanted you to make your own choice. Narration of my mother' incident, made a great impact on my religious life. God knows where we will be happy and he places us accordingly, to nourish ourselves with his word, with his love, so that we generously share what we have received freely. The formation I received in Daughters of Wisdom helped me to grow out of my timidity, willing to take risk, acquire and share Christ's values, to live amicably with everyone in the community in spite of different culture, language, customs, beliefs and background. God who calls makes sure we are happy in his vineyard. I have come across many difficulties, challenges and failures BUT STILL I am happy of the choice I made for God . Indeed, God has kept me happy and content in my religious life.

God is our protector nothing can stand against us. Ever since the creation God has always remained in communion with us, through prophets, apparitions, saints and in our times through scriptures, inspired persons, books, dreams etc. In certain important stages of my life, I have seen God's protecting hands in my dream. I have many of them just I wish to share my first dream that I had nearly twenty years back. I was learning to drive four wheelers, the previous day of my long drive to city; I had a dream which I can visualise even now. I was in the church of a village where I was and I was wearing light purple colour dress and a beautiful purple bow on my head. The dream was disturbing and kept coming to my mind all the time. Since I have to go out I went to city, in the afternoon when I was returning back I saw a big truck coming towards us, the driver who was sitting beside me saw this in a friction of moment took hold of the steering and changed the direction and we both were saved. After returning from the city, still something was tugging my heart and I wanted to know the meaning of my dream. Then I realised I had a booklet with dream symbol that was given by Sr.DianCaposi I looked into the booklet and I learnt dreaming of light purple had many interpretation one of it was God's protecting hand.

All these personal experience of my life I share, just to tell you how God expresses His love for each one of us in a unique and concrete way, to become His messengers with our personal transformation. We are created by God and God holds our hands and we journey with him. At this time of pandemic as we continue to pray Psalm 91 profound, let our trust be in God that He will take care of us, our families and our loved ones. May Mary our Mother watch over us, protect us and intercede for us. As you visit your children below here may you enkindle and renew our faith as we trust in your maternal care. Fr De Montfort and Mother Marie Louise of Jesus you survived the pandemic of your time, standing by and taking care of the sick, poor and the needy. Watch over and protect the vine that you have planted, the Montfortian families, we bring them to you through our prayers, strengthen our faith and trust in you so to

help the Covid victims and their families in whatever we can. For that is the legacy that you left us behind. "If I were a piece of cloth I would cloth the poor."

Lord our God; your arms are out stretched,

You grab us in your arms of Love.

You watch over us, as mother watches over her new born,

You rejoice over, every little steps we take towards you,

And you reach us before we reach you.

You captivate us, with your love,

So that nothing can distract us,

May this bond of love between us, continue to burn brightly in our hearts,

And make us to be a flame of your love without borders.

Amen

Sr.Lydia Anthony D.W.

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