



REFLECTIONS

October 30, 2022

"For God so loved the world that he gave..." *John 3:16*

Loving

There's nothing quite like being loved by others. Where would one be without it? And there's *absolutely* nothing like being loved by God. So undeserved, yet I seem to be so blessed by the love of them all—God and those other earthly friends He placed around me. Still, I fail them all every day because I can't or don't seem to love them back enough.

Love God, love your neighbor. Jesus said these are the greatest commands. Sounds so easy especially when I feel their love for me. I feel their patience when I err in my ways. I feel their kindness in times of need. They contain their anger even when I deserve their wrath; they desire nothing I have for myself even when they live without. They are polite to me even when my rudeness shows; and they never boast of what they've done, or display awards for their own good deeds. And those who love me, (more than a few it seems,) erase from their minds all wrongs I have done even those that hurt them most.

They are there for me when trouble lurks in the shadows; they trust in me in the face of my betrayals, always fighting through trials of life to carry rays of hope into my life. And it always works. I feel loved.

Yet there lies an emptiness within me. Something left unfulfilled. With the cover of love cast over me, what more could I need?

It's simple. Love them back. But more...

Of those countless in numbers who don't love me, they're starved for love themselves.

Love them too.

That's what God did when He gave us Jesus.

"You are the light of the world,"

Richard +

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