



Pastor Jeff's Daily Devotion

Day 11

January 21, 2010

Day Eleven

1 John 3:17-24

¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in His presence ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from Him anything we ask, because we obey His commands and do what pleases Him. ²³And this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us. ²⁴Those who obey His commands live in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us.

Love is the most abused word in the English dictionary. When I think of loving in action and truth the word unselfish comes to mind. Love cannot see a person in true need and not care. To love is to act. When we love it also puts our hearts at rest. How comforting it is to know that even if our hearts condemn us that God is greater than our hearts. So the more we grow the more our lives should be characterized by rest. Obedience is also a fruit that grows out of our lives. When we try to live and produce fruit in our own strength we will lose the ability and the fruit will not last. When His Spirit flows through us we can obey and bear fruit in His power.

May we all grow in that relationship with Him and then the fruits of obedience and love will naturally grow.

Lord, open my eyes to those in need around me and then love them through me.