

Week 37: “Undying Love”

Day Two: “Encouragement”

Read: Ephesians 6:21-24

Reflect: What kind of event or experience tends to discourage you?

Who helps you (which human resource) to overcome discouragement?

Dig: Read Ephesians 1:15-16. How does Paul encourage them in this text?

Read Ephesians 4:29 and list the three standards that Paul uses to measure what we should say to others:

According to Hebrews 10:24-25, what are we to do when we meet with one another?

Paul does more than send a letter to the Ephesians. He sends a person to encourage them. How is that action gospel-shaped or typical of God? See John 1:1,14 for a biblical answer:

Apply: How can you encourage another person today? I urge you to write a note of encouragement to someone Right Now –handwritten and in the mail.

Week Thirty-Seven: “Undying Love”

Day Three: “Love with Faith”

Read: Eph. 6:21-24

Reflect: How does faith show itself in your life?

Dig: Read Ephesians 6:23. What three gifts of God are mentioned in this passage?

Is faith a gift from God or an act of humans?

See Ephesians 2:8 for a biblical answer to this question.

Read Galatians 5:6 and answer these questions:

- According to this passage, what doesn't matter?
- According to this passage how should faith be expressed?

Read Ephesians 4:15-16 and answer these questions:

- How are we to speak truth?

- What effect will this have on the body of Christ?

Apply: Today, how can your faith (trust in God) be expressed in love?

Week Thirty-Seven: "Undying Love"

Day Four: "Undying Love"

Read: Ephesians 6:21-24

Reflect: How would you answer this question: "What must I do to continue to receive God's daily grace"?

Dig: Upon whom, exactly does Paul call God's grace? (See Ephesians 6:24)

According to 2 Peter 3:17-18, what conditions must we meet in order to keep receiving our "secure position"?

According to 2 Peter 1:3-11, what must we add to our faith in order to "receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom"?

According to Philippians 2:12-13, how do our actions and God's provision of help fit together?

Apply: In the space provided, write out a fresh prayer expressing your undying love for Jesus:

Week Thirty-Seven: "Undying Love"

Day Five: "Lectio Divina"

Read: Ephesians 6:21-24

Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you. Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

Lectio divina (a Latin expression which means Sacred reading) is done in three stages:

-- **reading:** you read the passage slowly and reverentially, allowing the words to sink into your consciousness; after you have memorized the text, write down one word which strikes you and draws your attention and note why you chose that word.

-- **meditation:** you allow the passage to stir up memories within you, so that you recognize in it your own experience or that of people who have touched your life; write down memories of events or conversations or other scripture passages.

-- **prayer:** you allow the meditation to lead you to prayer -- thanksgiving, humility and petition.

Write out a prayer based on the passage.