

AUGUST 17

“GOD LOVES US BECAUSE HE IS GOD.”

READ

1 John 4:15-19, Romans 8:38-39

The unconditional love of God is the most difficult thing for us to grasp. God does not love us because of who we are or what we have. He loves us because He is God. God does not love you more when you read and pray a lot or love you less when you don't. God cannot love you sometimes, and other times not. Paul said the love of God compels us and drives us. When God lives in us, we can't help but love. When we look at ourselves, we see a mess and we think that's how God feels about us. He demonstrates His love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. We are already in His presence. It's only the love of God that keeps you strong. No matter what you've failed to do, as long as you hold onto God's unchanging hand, He'll be strong in your life. You may still struggle with the love of God, because you're looking at how often you've failed. Don't let the enemy torment you over whether or not God loves you. He's God. It's His nature.

PRAY

Lord, open my eyes to see the wondrous things from Your word. I pray that today I accept Your unconditional love — a love that never changes and is with me to the end. Please help me to show Your precious love to others.

From December 27, 2009