

The Mission of Love

In the months that are leading up to the World Meeting of Families there are topics to help prepare ourselves. Reflecting on these topics will be helpful whether you are planning on attending next fall or not.

Last month I shared with you about how we are Created for Joy.

This month the topic to reflect on is The Mission of Love.

In the catechesis for the World Meeting of Families it writes:

God works through us. We have a mission. We are in the world for a purpose- to receive God's love ourselves and to show God's love to others. God seeks to heal a broken universe. He asks us to be his witnesses and helpers in that work.

So realize that broken and flawed as we are, we all have a job to do. Figuring out what that job is and how to get it done takes patience and prayer.

But at times patience weighs thin and prayer is sparse. The quick fix seems to be the cure. Simplifying, stream lining and faster is always seems better.

An obvious example is technology -

I think that I have heard and said these words a hundred times..." It is really simple-I saw this thing on Pinterest" OR "Just Google it" is the go to for any question out there. But searching the internet is sometimes like following rabbit hole – and the best answers are usually the simplest. So we look to scripture.

The Bible is full of the best examples of God's love. We were created in His image. He has called us and he makes a covenant with us. Through this covenant God teaches us to love as he loves.

We need to concentrate on His example. His example shows that He loves at all times. He created us for a relationship with him. Having been created for this communion we learn that love is our mission. To live this way requires humility. It requires us to see the world through our makers' eyes.

If we had that vantage point, if we had our makers eyes – looking around...what would we see??? This time of year there is so much to take in

I think that at Christmas time we are surrounded by how much our Lord loves us. We see examples of the amazing love and sacrifice through Mary and Joseph. We understand devotion and faith through the wise men and their journey. We understand what it is to be humble, using a manger for a bed. We hear choirs sing praise just as the angels did. We light candles in joy and anticipation. We trim trees to bring out their beauty. This is our time to celebrate "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son..."

I have a personal story of loving at all times, humility and sacrifice.

One of my fondest memories at Christmas time when I was growing up might seem odd to most people.

It would be Christmas Eve. I would be up in my bed looking into the dark of my room, to excited to shut my eyes. With nothing to see, all I could do was listen. And the sounds I would hear make up the fondest memories of my childhood Christmas.

It is the sound of scotch tape being pulled from its roll and scissors cutting through paper.

I know right~ odd. But you see this sound was the sound of my mother tirelessly wrapping gifts Christmas Eve night. I would lay awake in my bed listening to those sounds, anticipating what that paper and tape were hiding. I was amazed she would still be awake when I could see earlier how tired she was. I felt so special that she kept pushing on for me and my family.

In the Bible we read that~

“No greater love than this that a man would lay down his life for another”

No greater love than this that a weary mother; sleep deprived and stressed from the holiday hustle would stay up late to place wrapped presents under the tree.

Love is big and it is small. It joins us together; it holds us where we need to be. It uses us for the greater good. It gives us hope and helps us give hope to others.

I have shared with many that my all time favorite Christmas Song is Oh Holy Night.

It illustrates to me the wondrous love God has for all. I feel His love when I hear those words

“Long lay the world; in sin and error pining. Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.”

As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us remember one another’s worth. Let us be humble in our actions. Let us remember the beauty in sacrifice. Let us build strength in our families through the power of God’s love.

Merry Christmas to All

By:

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