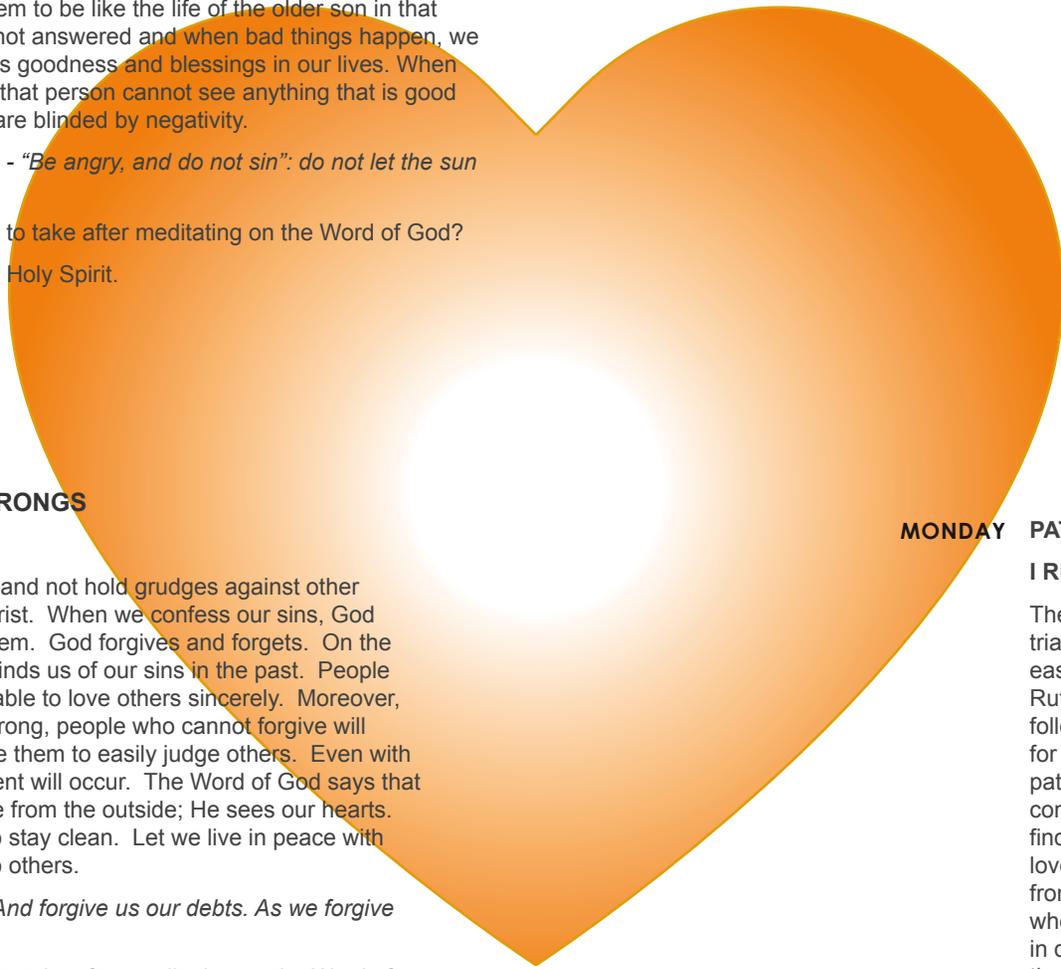


LOVE



SATURDAY NOT EASILY ANGERED

I READ: Luke 15: 11-32

In the story of the prodigal son, the older child became angry because of the extraordinary welcome his father gave the youngest son when he returned home. His outrage caused him to not able to see the great love and blessings that his father had given him all those years. As Children of God, often times our lives seem to be like the life of the older son in that story. When our prayers are not answered and when bad things happen, we get angry and we forget God's goodness and blessings in our lives. When anger overwhelms a person, that person cannot see anything that is good because the heart and blind are blinded by negativity.

I DECLARE: *Ephesians 4:26 - "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath.*

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guide by the Holy Spirit.

SUNDAY KEEP NO RECORD OF WRONGS

I READ: Matthew 6:9-15

We have to be able to forgive and not hold grudges against other people. Learn from Jesus Christ. When we confess our sins, God will never remember any of them. God forgives and forgets. On the contrary, the devil always reminds us of our sins in the past. People who hold grudges will not be able to love others sincerely. Moreover, when other people do them wrong, people who cannot forgive will always remember it and cause them to easily judge others. Even with the simplest mistake, judgement will occur. The Word of God says that God doesn't see what's visible from the outside; He sees our hearts. Therefore, guard our hearts to stay clean. Let us live in peace with everyone and be a blessing to others.

I DECLARE: *Matthew 6:12 - And forgive us our debts. As we forgive our debtors.*

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guide by the Holy Spirit

MONDAY PATIENCE

I READ: 1 Corinthians 13, Ruth 1:15-17

The definition of patient is the ability to withstand trials, not easily angered, does not lose hope easily, and does not easily get broken hearted. Ruth is an example of someone who has love followed by patience. Because of her love for her mother in law, Ruth followed her and with patience bore the burden as a widow. Ruth never complained even when she had to work hard to find food in a foreign land. Ruth's patience and love moved God to change her situation. And from Ruth's descendants, was born the Messiah, who is Jesus Christ. True love will give patience in dealing with others and in bad situations. Love that is accompanied by patience will enable someone to walk this life calmly and believe that there's a way out in every problem.

I DECLARE: *Proverbs 15:18 - A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger allays contention.*

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guided by the Holy Spirit.

Source: Ps. Juliet Pranoto & Publishing Team, IBC Church

TUESDAY KINDNESS

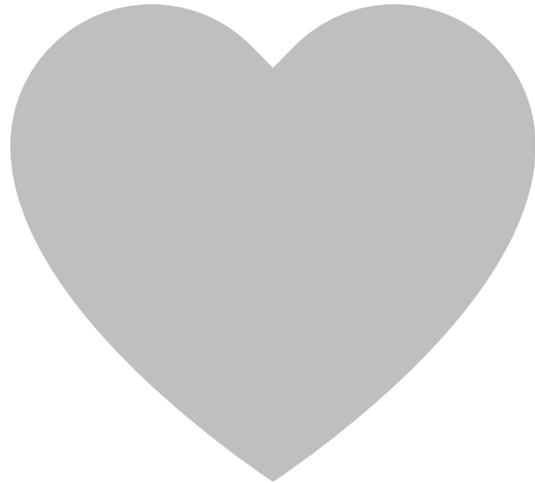
RENUNGAN : Galatians 5:22-25 , 1 Corinthians 13:4

For the most part, people are kind to the people they love. They will do everything possible to give their loved ones anything they want. As God’s children, we need to be kind, not only to our loved ones, but to everyone. Being kind is similar to giving. When someone has the love of Christ inside their heart, the person will automatically want to give. A kind person will give willingly, and they will never be deficient in their life. If we realize that all of our wealth and possessions come from the Lord, then we will not want to store up blessings for ourselves, but instead be moved to share it with others. Kindness pleases the Lord, and others, but being stingy can actually close the door to the Lord’s blessings.

I DECLARE: *Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy*

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guided by the Holy Spirit.



THURSDAY HUMBLENESS

I READ: 1 Samuel 13:1-14

Saul’s loss of position as king of Israel was caused by what he did when he became proud as a king. Saul felt that because he was a king, he had the right to do the duty of a priest/prophet – giving a burnt offering before the Lord. Pride makes individuals feel as if they do not need the Lord and don’t have to obey the Lord. We can test ourselves if we have pride through some ways: do we always want to be praised, do we get offended quickly if we are reprimanded, do we look down on certain people, do we often boast, or do we not like it if there are others who are better than us? Lucifer was expelled by God because of his pride. Remember that everything we have and our present existence is solely because of God’s grace and goodness. So there’s nothing to be proud of.

I DECLARE: Proverbs 21:4 - A haughty look, a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked are sin.

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guide by the Holy Spirit.

WEDNESDAY DO NOT ENVY/BE JEALOUS

I READ : Genesis 4:1-16

In the book of Genesis 4, it is told how Cain killed his brother Abel because of envy/jealousy as a result of Abel’s offering that the Lord accepted; but Cain’s offering was not. This action caused the condemnation of Cain’s life to fall and to keep him away from God. From this story, we can learn that the envy/jealousy that controls one’s heart must have a negative impact. A person who is envious/jealous does not have peace because he/she dislike others who have more than him/herself. In addition, various diseases can arise from being envious (Proverbs 14:30). Therefore, it’s important that we as children of God always test our hearts to see whether we are clear of any feelings of envy/jealousy. The best way to avoid jealousy in our heart is to diligently giving thanks.

I DECLARE: Proverbs 15:13- A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance. But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guided by the Holy Spirit.

FRIDAY DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN ADVANTAGE

I READ: 1 Corinthians 10: 23-33

A community can survive and remain strong if each of its members seeks what benefits others first and not look for personal gains. This is not easy to do because, in general, humans are selfish. When selfishness arises, love will automatically subside. Selfish people can’t be good examples for others. To put the needs of others first, we must be willing to sacrifice and suppress our ego. Sacrifice is one of Christ’s actions that we must model in life. The sacrifices we make for the benefit of others will make others see the love of Christ that is within us. This act of sacrifice will open the eyes of others and teach them to sacrifice as well.

I DECLARE: *James 3:16 - For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there*

I DO: What action am I going to take after meditating on the Word of God?

I PRAY: Pray as guide by the Holy Spirit.