

Personal Insecurity

Many of us have been let down or betrayed by other people. People have used and abused us, they have taken from us what they wanted and controlled us for their selfish ends. We find it difficult to trust anyone again. So we build walls of protection to keep others at bay and protect us from further hurt. We make inner vows such as, 'no one will ever hurt me again'. We isolate ourselves in the vain effort to avoid further pain. However, it doesn't really work. The pain remains and may still overwhelm us. Only **unconditional** love can heal that pain and give us real personal security.

We all need to be loved unconditionally, irrespective of our behaviour. It is a fundamental need of the human person as a spiritual being. If we have not felt adequately loved by our parents we may become deeply insecure as people. This insecurity makes us very anxious and fearful. We feel rejected and fear further rejection.

Here again, Scripture teaches us that God loves us unconditionally.

'Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?..... And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow - not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below - indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8v31-39)

This may not be the concept of God that we have developed in life, but it is the revelation God gives us of himself. We may have transferred to God the feelings we developed from our experience of authority figures in our lives - perhaps people who were harsh and demanding and only loved us for what they could get from us. But God is not like that in reality. He has given us a proof of his love for us in sending his Son Jesus Christ into the world to save us. (Romans 5v8) He loved us so much that he was prepared to die instead of us to save us from the hell of a loveless existence. (John 3v16)

When we connect with God he starts to pour his love into our hearts and gives us a life worth living. (Romans 5v5). The Scriptures tell us the objective facts about God's love. But when we open up ourselves to receive his love, the Spirit of God pours God's love into the core of our inner being. When we invite him to fill us with his Spirit we begin to experience his love, not as an abstract theory, but as a felt reality.

'And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.' (Ephesians 3v14-19).

The more we soak up his love, the more healed and secure we become. Life becomes, not simply more bearable, but positively worth living.