If our actions show love and truth...



Wednesday Prayer Fourth Sunday of Easter

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 1 John 3:17-18 Loving one's neighbor, through our works. This passage calls for us to see those around us, each and every day, to reach out to a brother or sister in need. We may not feel like we have "the world's goods" as we struggle to pay a bill, send a child to college, or get caught up in keeping up with a neighbor. But real life-giving occurs as we share what we have. When we refuse to help, we stifle the love of God in us. When we recognize our "goods" to be shared whether that is our money, time, openness, caring, prayers, actions – then we are open to the love of God. And we open this love to others around us. We may not know whether our daily interactions impact a person who has suffered from exploitation. We may never know this. But if our actions show love and truth and support for those in need, we are acting as children of God. Dear loving God, help us to reach out to our brothers and sisters each and every day in our actions. Help us to see how you have provided us gifts to share, that our worldly goods of time and resources, love and care, are just what one person may need at any given moment. Guide our actions, Amen.

Today's content was written by Joy McElroy, Executive Director of Cherish All Children.

Please also lift up in prayer:

- All God's children that their lives and futures are filled with your love.
- Exploited children to find safety and healing; Vulnerable children to find safe people and places; Perpetrators to stop their abusive and exploitive behaviors; and Bystanders to intervene on behalf of children.
- Cherish All Children leaders, congregations, synods, and all those working tirelessly to protect and cherish all God's children.

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Cherish All Children is a social ministry that equips congregations to prevent child sexual exploitation.

"Love born of faith in Jesus Christ calls us all to attend to, discuss, resist, and reject the system of sexual exploitation."
(ELCA Message on Commercial Sexual Exploitation, pg. 1)

Your donations make this ministry possible! Give today!

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