

Pastor Andrew's Devotion 20th June (Saturday)

1 John 4:7-11 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

My love for my neighbor is evidence of my being born again and my claim to know God. My love for my neighbor is about giving them justice. Our religious devotion about loving God and doing works of mercy are two sides of the same coin. This thought challenges us to the core of our existence and religious claim that we are born again.

Why am I so afraid to love or to give justice to the last, lost and least?

- I don't feel capable of helping such people in society.
- I am afraid that if I get involved I'm not sure where it will lead me to.
- Isn't this the responsibility of the government and NGOs?
- It is too uncomfortable a job for me to do.
- I am afraid that I will lose myself.

1 John 4:11 "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

But then I can spend time meditating on how much God loves me. So it is love coming in that I receive, but then how is that love going out from me? The irony of the fear of losing myself is precisely what my life is. Life is lived in giving ourselves to others. "Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet."

Who is one person I can show the love of God, today?