

Session 2

BOUNDLESS LOVE

“So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NABRE)

I. HOW TO PUT ON LOVE

In St. Paul’s letter to the Colossians, he made a perfect elaboration of genuine love: *“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And above all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.”* (Colossians 3:12-14) Each of the six virtues defines a specific aspect of love that explains the very core of our humanity, our being. The journey to holiness starts by loving, and we do so by doing little acts of love.

II. TEMPTED OUT OF LOVE

We are tempted with Isolation, complacency, pride, anger, impatience, and unforgiveness every day. We are driven away from acts of love. As we veer away from putting love into action, we slowly keep ourselves from loving. And if we stop loving, we can never move further in life and our pursuit of holiness. Right now, God calls us to make a change in our habits and ourselves in order to love unconditionally without boundaries.

III. THE “LITTLE WAY” & THE STRENGTH TO LOVE BOUNDLESSLY

Let us follow the life of St. Therese of Lisieux. She is a perfect example of what we are – limited, frail, weak, stubborn. She was very broken, the only reason she was able to love was that she allowed Jesus to love through her. She embraced her “little ways” as acts of charity which, for her, was simply allowing Christ to work through her. Every day is an opportunity to love no matter what we do and whom we are with, just like St. Therese. To live by the little ways of love is to love boundlessly. And as we love boundlessly, we become more like Jesus, holy.

Discussion Questions

1. Which characteristics of love do you need more of to overcome your hindrances from love?
 - a. Compassion to overcome self-centeredness?
 - b. Kindness to overcome isolation and complacency?
 - c. Humility to overcome pride?
 - d. Gentleness to overcome anger?
 - e. Patience to overcome impatience?
 - f. Mercy to overcome unforgiveness?
2. Is there someone who you feel called to love more?

