

February 2018
From the Desk of Rev. Chuck

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Dear Friends,

Recently I was in the Ft. Lauderdale - Hollywood area of south Florida officiating my mother's memorial service at the American Legion Post 304 in Dania.

While I drove around visiting family and friends I often ran into road delays or detours due to construction. The signs, "Slow down," and "Men at Work," got me thinking, after all what else does one do while waiting to continue driving? What if we slowed down and allowed the activity of "love at work" to help repair any problems we have on our highway in life?

February is the month in which we celebrate love in all its many forms and functions, holding one day of the year, February 14th, Valentines Day, to share our love with others. On that day thousands of people across the country will celebrate "the day of love" with flowers, cards, candy, gifts, and for many a special dinner. However, at the same time there will also be thousands who will not be celebrating this day of love. *WHY?*

Well, for many people today they find themselves in the process of trying to overcome one of the greatest lacks and loneliness in their lives--the lack of love. For any number of reasons, the idea of being able to love or being loved has been missing from their lives. This feeling of loneliness is one of the greatest challenges of human experience.

I have known many people who have lived alone and are fine with it. So choosing to live alone and feeling lonely are not the same. The key here is their state of mind and how they interact with people in their lives. When love is present, all is well. When it's not, it can bring about feelings of loneliness, because one feels very much alone and unlovable. But there is hope.

In Jeremiah 31:3 we are told that God love is everlasting, "I have loved you with an everlasting love;" and later in 31:33 God gives us this promise, "This is the covenant I make with the people...I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Because God's love is everlasting it can never be lost

or destroyed anymore than God can be lost or destroyed.

In UNITY we talk a lot about the Law and the Law being Principle, the Law being God. And the law that God speaks of is the only law worth following, for it is the only law that we need to obey and use in our lives. And what is that law that God put into our minds and hearts? It is simply this:
Love At Work!

When our lives are in need of repair, maybe we can put up a sign that says "Love at Work.." The next time we feel that there is no love in our life we can go and get our sign and put it up somewhere as a constant reminder that love is always at work, God is always at work. God is love at work, and love is God at work. And when we are working with love, we are working with God. We often forget that we are created to love and be loved as an image and likeness of God. And therefore, love is and must be our very nature.

If you or someone you know is dealing with loneliness of feeling unloved try this exercise:

Close your eyes and visualize yourself in a hallway. Now at the end of the hallway there is a door and you are walking to that door. You open the door and go inside. The room has a chair in the middle of the floor. Now close the door and walk over to the chair and sit down. As you look around the room you notice that there is a light bulb hanging over your head and you reach to pull the chain to turn it on. Nothing, no light, the bulb is burned out. You sigh that you no longer have light, because the electric light bulb has burned out. You think, "It is the will of God that I should suffer the rest of my life in darkness." Then as your eyes adjust to the darkness of the room you see a little bit of light coming through the crack between the floor and the door to the hallway. You remember that you do not have to stay here in the darkness, so you get up and go the door. You open the door and re-enter the lighted hallway.

People the world over have found themselves in these rooms of fear, pain, and lack of love. We seldom stop to realize that in a moment we can begin to change it. We make a choice to seek God, and the love that God is, the love that is the light of truth born to every person! As in our exercise, we came from the lighted hallway and we can always return to it!