

A TIME FOR LOVE

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A few years ago, when I was in college, I joined an extra course in journalism. There was a group of folks who were in the same class as me. It turned out that there was one person in the group who was used to being “the smartest person in the class”.

In my mind, I was quite happy that there was someone brilliant in the class. I saw that person as an asset but she particularly saw me as an enemy. It was not easy to convince her that I’m not a threat or a competitor as she made me out to be.

It got worse as months went by. It didn’t matter what I said. She would argue with me in front of the whole class, try to put me down and humiliate me. It started to bother me, and it was really hard for me to be nice to her. I tried my best to be cordial but nothing could stop her from treating me indifferently.

It’s not difficult to love the people that love us. The challenge is to love those who have done us wrong. That was Paul’s prayer to us.

Please read 1Thessalonians 3:11-13

Paul prays for two vital things in this passage. Firstly, he prays for their love to grow for one another and secondly, their overflowing love would mean they are found blameless when the Lord Jesus comes again.

No matter when Jesus comes, Paul wanted the Thessalonians to be found “blameless and holy” on that day. Not for one moment is Paul thinking that they can win salvation by being perfect; his whole idea was about having a track record of following GOD’S will and faithfully loving others.

Whatever you’re dealing with today, may you discover this truth in a new way.

This Advent Season, may we reflect and prepare our hearts and homes for Christ’s birth in the world as it is today. Let us also reflect on the triumphant return of our Lord Jesus Christ at the second coming.

*Dear GOD,
thank you for coaching me through this great race called life. Help me to grow your love to the point it cannot be contained and spills out to everyone. Cultivate in me a sincere desire to walk in uprightness of heart so that my words and actions will show that I belong to you. I pray this in Jesus Christ’s precious name. Amen.*