

Devotion 10

1 John 4: 16-21

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.



My Reflections

Today's thought from Walter Brueggemann

It is the vocation of the baptized, the known and named and unafraid, to make the world whole: • The unafraid are open to the neighbour, while the frightened are defending themselves from the neighbour. • The unafraid are generous in the community, while the frightened, in their anxiety, must keep and store and accumulate, to make themselves safe. • The unafraid commit acts of compassion and mercy, while the frightened do not notice those in need. • The unafraid are committed to justice for the weak and the poor, while the frightened see them only as threats. • The unafraid pray in the morning, care through the day, and rejoice at night in thanks and praise, while the frightened are endlessly restless and dissatisfied.

Lord Jesus, may I be a vessel of God's grace given by the work of your power. To you be glory in my life, in the church and in Christ Jesus, to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (adapted from Ephesians 3: 7, 20)