

FOR REFLECTION

Worthy Vessels for the Lord's Love

What can we do to make ourselves a worthy vessel for the Lord's love, so that He can be conjoined or form a bond with us and inspire us to serve others? How can we make sure that we are open to His love rather than turning away? How might reading the Word and trying to apply it in our lives help us receive His love? The passages from the Word (see below) may help you reflect on these questions.

Related passages from the Lord's Word

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth (Psalm 145:18).

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment" (Matthew 22:37-38).

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word" (John 14:23).

"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love.... These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.... You are My friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:10-12,14).

The essence of His love consists of three things, namely, to love others outside of Himself, to desire to be one with them, and from Himself to render them blessed.... Love desires these three things, and wisdom brings them forth (*True Christian Religion* 43:1).

The Lord is present with every person, urging and pressing to be received.... [A person receives Him] when he acknowledges Him as his God, Creator, Redeemer and Savior (*True Christian Religion* 766).

In heaven loving the Lord does not mean loving Him in respect to His person, but it means loving the good that is from Him; and to love good is to will and do good from love (*Heaven and Hell* 15).