



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

September 26, 2021

The Greatness Of God's Love (Ken Weliever)

This morning reading Romans 8 reminded me of the story of little Johnny visiting his grandparents on their farm.

Johnny was given a slingshot to play with out in the woods. He practiced shooting rocks, but he could never hit the target.

Discouraged, he headed back inside for lunch.

As he returned to his grandma's backyard, he spied her pet duck. Impulsively he took aim and hit the duck square in the head and killed it. Johnny panicked and hid the duck in the woodpile, only to look up and see his sister, Sally, watching.

After lunch that day, Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally responded, "Grandma. Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen today, didn't you,

Johnny?" And then she whispered to him. "Remember the duck!"

So, Johnny did the dishes. What choice did he have?

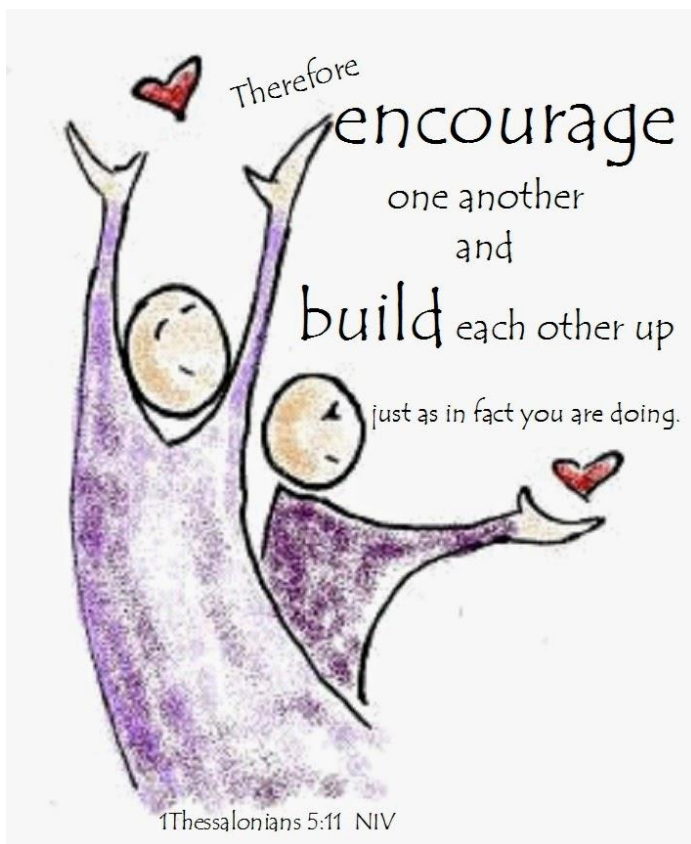
Later Grandpa asked if the children wanted to go fishing, and Grandma said, "I'm sorry, but I need Sally to help me make supper." But, Sally smiled and said, "Well, that's all right because Johnny told me he wanted to help."

And she whispered again, "Remember the duck!" So, Sally went fishing, and Johnny stayed at the house!

After several days of Johnny doing both his chores and Sally's, he finally could not stand it any longer. He came up to his grandmother and confessed that he killed the duck.

She knelt down, gave him a hug, and said, "Sweetheart, I know. You see, I was standing at the window, and I saw the whole thing. It does my heart good to see you admit you're wrong, and because I love you, I forgive you. But I was wondering how long you would let Sally make a slave of you."





Too many Christians are like little Johnny. They are trying to hide their sins. Deny their faults. Or cover their tracks. But the fact is we all sin—even Christians. We're not perfect. But we're pardoned.

Paul reminds us in Romans that the "gift of God" through our faith in Christ and obedience to His Word offers justification from our sins. So, Paul raises these pertinent and practical questions.

Who can accuse us?

Who can condemn us?

Who can be against us?

Not God.

God loves us with a love that is beyond human comprehension. Rhetorically, Paul asks, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

But to leave no doubt, the apostle emphatically and powerfully answers the question.

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

When Satan accuses you and tries to burden you with guilt, turn to the love of God to receive forgiveness.

When you face some trouble, trial, trauma, or circumstances beyond your control that saps your spirit, remember God loves you.

When you lament the debilitating effects of sin that impact all of us. Either directly or indirectly. Crooked politicians. Greedy business people. Hypocritical church leaders. Fickle friends. All of which can leave us feeling betrayed. Empty. And alone. Never forget God loves you.

When feelings of loneliness, doubt, or discouragement surface, lean on the divine truth that God loves you.

God's love is greater than any adversity. Higher than any hurdle. Deeper than any hole. Wider than any sea. Stronger than any wind. Sweeter than any love.

God's love cannot be extinguished. Bought. Sold. Compromised. Or diminished.

There is no circumstance, no person, or problem that can separate us from the love of God.

In fact, even your own rejection of God does not dampen His love for you. As a bumper sticker I once saw said, "God loves you. Whether you like it or not."

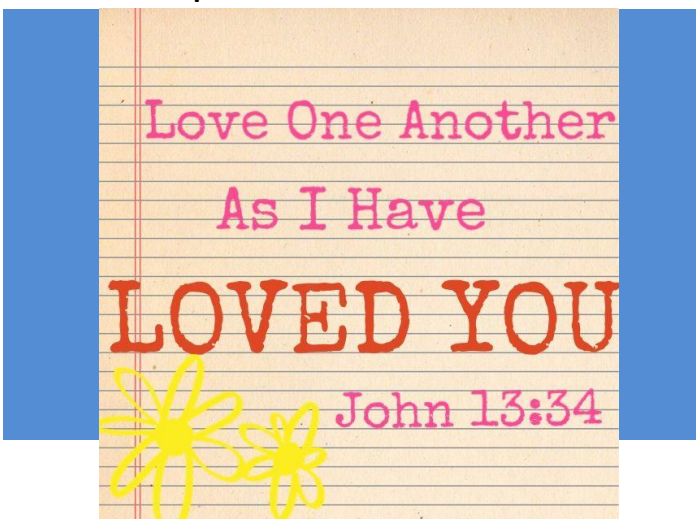
God has made a conscious choice to love us. Even while we were yet sinners.

God's love is longsuffering. Kind. And unselfish. God's love is wide enough to include all people. Deep enough to forgive all sins. And long enough to use all people for His purpose.

So, when the world tries to dampen your spirit, and Satan wants to steal the music from within you, fill your heart with the melody and message of this song by Frederick M Lehman:

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with
care

God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin



"Everybody, Somebody, Anybody & Nobody" Four Responsible Christians (Author Unknown)

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody were all neighbors in a community. These four fellows worshipped at the same congregation. Yet, they were unlike you and me for they were more mature in their judgements.

Everybody was out of town most Sundays visiting relatives and Somebody usually went fishing. Anybody could have gone but thought he wouldn't really be missed since Everybody would be there. So Nobody went to church.

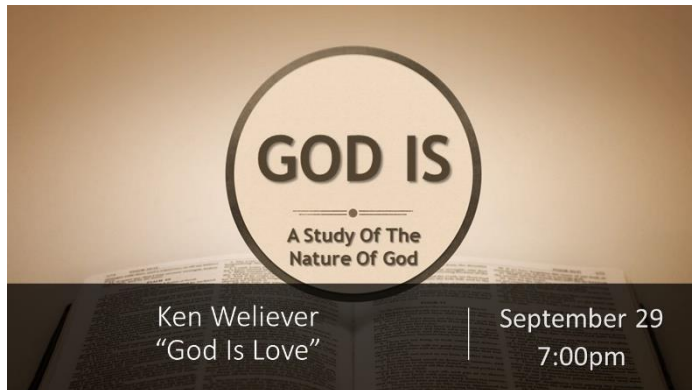
Not long ago the Elders needed a teacher for one of the Bible classes. Everybody thought Somebody would teach the class and Somebody thought Anybody could do the teaching. So they wound up with Nobody teaching the class.

It seems that Nobody was the only decent chap among them. Nobody did the work when Everybody didn't and when Somebody wouldn't, and when Anybody couldn't.

One day an unbeliever moved into the community. Everybody honestly believed Somebody would teach him. Somebody thought Anybody could, while Anybody thought Everybody had already

talked to this man. Guess who finally won this man to Christ! That's right - Nobody.

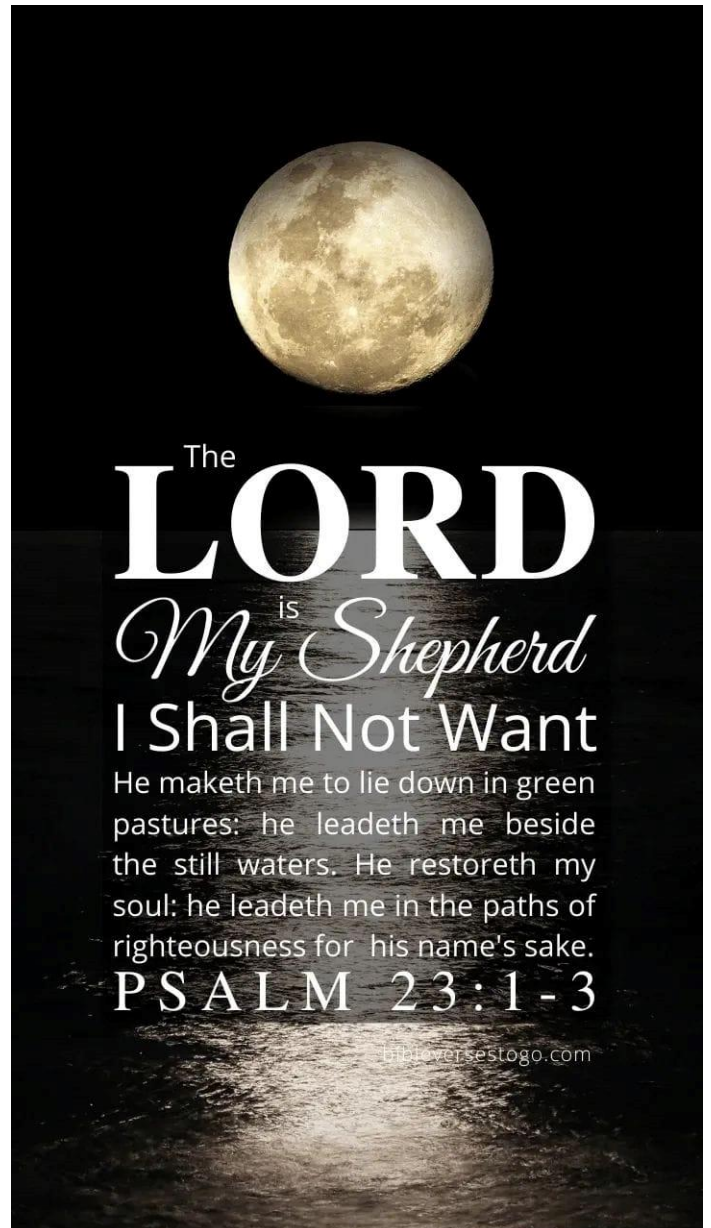
The years went by and these four fellows (Everybody, Somebody, Anybody & Nobody) died and went to meet their maker. Guess who finally went to Heaven! That's right - Nobody!



- The sun does not look less upon one rose in the midst of a thousand millions of other flowers than if he looked down upon it alone. And God does not shed His love less upon one soul while He loves an infinity of others than if He loved it alone. (*Francis of Sales; 1567-1622*)
- Love is the greatest thing that God can give us; for Himself is

love; and it is the greatest thing we can give God. (*Jeremy Taylor, 1650*)

- When it is said that God loves man this is not a judgment on what man is like, but on what God is like. (*Anders Nygren, 1953*)



Brooksville Church of Christ

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Times of Services

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

☞ *Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida*

☞ *Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; The saints in Nicaragua*

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