

March 15, 2010

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:31-39

One of the questions we ask of Scripture is, "What does this mean for me?"

It's easy to focus a lot of attention on the moral instructions found in Scripture. We naturally look for teaching and guidance about how we should live our lives. Like children, we want to please our heavenly Father, and make sure we are "doing good."

Sometimes, though, we fall into the trap of assuming God's love is conditional. We believe we have to be good enough for God to love us. We believe we must earn God's love and deserve God's care for us.

We get it backwards.

Instead of trying to be "good" **so that** God will love us, we can be "good" **because** God loves us. The distinction is important. Because we have the assurance of God's unconditional love, we are free to live as children of God and disciples of Jesus.

With today's reading from Romans as a starting point, spend some time soaking in the love of God. Let God tell you, "I Love You." Stop trying to earn God's love. Live today as though there really is nothing that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Pray for people who do not know that God loves them.