



DAY 31 | May 31, 2020

Scripture

“Love is patient and kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” — 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

Inspiration

So, here we are, at the end of our second full month of this pandemic, and the end is in sight now in so many ways. We’ve come through the worst, and without taking our guard down using smart precautions, we’re ready to live life again! So, why this verse to end the month — a verse most often associated with weddings and romance? Because we’ve come through a time defined largely by fear — real and imagined. It has been a time where fear, manifesting as worry, stress, frustration and anger, has been unrelenting. News headlines reinforced it. Politicians of all persuasions used it as currency. Friends, family and even our own minds obsessed with it. Fear.

But God gives us a more powerful emotion, a more effective state of being: Love! Love is on the opposite end of the spectrum of human emotions from fear. **To be motivated by love, rather than fear, is to be motivated to serve others, and to support, encourage and nurture. Love provides hope, which the world badly needs right now.** Love is, in the language of our work at Wellspring, a “strength-based” way of life. So, as we turn this page of the calendar, let’s commit to leaving any fear we have behind in May, and look to the future with the love God gives each of us. Love, because it is resilient, perseveres; and so have we. It’s a blessing we dare not fail to pick up and use as we move boldly into the future.

Prayer

LOVING GOD, you have walked with us every step of this journey — even when we didn’t know it, feel it or experience it. **Your presence in our lives, manifested by your love for us in the blessings along the way, has been constant and empowering.** Even when we failed to acknowledge those blessings, they were there. Thank you for your faithfulness, and help us claim love as our way of being as we move forward. Help us leave any fear behind as we continue this journey, using hope to propel our work, nurture our relationships and inspire others. Hope comes from love, and love comes from you. May we always hold that close in our hearts. **AMEN.**