

40 DAYS OF LENT: DAY #23

WORD OF TODAY: John 14:15-17 (ESV)

15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

THOUGHTS ON THE WORD:

Do these words of our Lord Jesus Christ pierce your heart? The “if” beginning our verse today reminds us of the choice we have, to believe or not. The “then” rings of Truth as the only application for the one whose choice is to love Jesus, obedience.

Consider today and reflect upon the Truth that it is impossible to love a God not known. For us to love God, and thereby participating in the result of that love (which is obeying His commandments) we must first *know* Him (you might also consider then what Jesus says in John 12:45 “And whoever sees me sees him who sent me”).

How well do you know Christ Jesus? Do you know Him in His humanity? Do you know Him in His Divinity? Do you know Him as the Word made flesh? Do you know Him as your Savior, Master, Lord, King?

“IF” we love Him, we will desire to obey His commandments, and He will ask the Father to send His Spirit to be with us and dwell in us. The Helper will live in us, speak Truth to us, guide us, protect us, encourage us, strengthen us.

Do you know the Helper’s presence? Do you hear the Helper speak to you and guide you? Take a moment now and listen for what the Helper might say to you. Is it a moment of conviction? A moment of encouragement? A moment of comfort? A moment of peace? How will you share the Truth of the Gospel today?

PERSONAL REFLECTION (Spend a few minutes reflecting on the Word and the thoughts presented. What do you hear, and how might you respond?):

TIME MEDITATING (How long did you give your attention to God's Word?):

REVEALED THROUGH SELF-EXAMINATION (What conviction(s) were revealed?):

TODAY'S CONFESSION:

TODAY'S PRAYER:

TODAY'S FAST (What will you deny yourself today?):

TODAY'S ALMS-GIVING (What will you give to another today?):