

2023 DANIEL FAST

R.E.A.L.

Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for

DAY 6

John 3:16 [The Amplified Translation] *"For God so greatly **loved** and dearly prized the world that He [even] **gave** up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life."*

A friendship is a close and intimate relationship that is developed over time. It is a bond of mutual understanding, affection, and support. However, a lasting friendship also requires time and dedication. Saint Augustine said, *"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement."*

In a relationship there are two stalwarts, cornerstones, that exemplify what a friendship must have to last...Love and Giving. These are the foundation stones we find in John 3:16, *"God so LOVED that He GAVE."* This is the apex of true friendship.

Loving is what ignites giving and giving is our response to others because of the love we have for them. Every strong relationship, friendship, marriage, etc., has love and giving as its foundation. We know God loves us. We know God gives, and gives, and gives to us. The great quandary for us is do we have these 2 characteristics at the core of our relationship with the Father? Do I love Him? How much do I love Him? Am I a giver in this relationship? What and how much do I give to God?

Today, make the decision to love God. Love Him, totally and entirely, love Him. Become a giver in your relationship with God. Give of yourself, all that you are and all that you have. You only have it because God gave it to you. God wants you to love Him without conditions. God wants you to give to Him without conditions. This is the way He loves us and gives to us...no conditions.

It's time to build Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for!

Worship Song:

"I Am Loved" – Mack Brock

<https://youtu.be/9OmYhgvwQa8>

Scripture Readings:

Romans 5:6-8 [New Living Translation] *"When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷ Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸ But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."*

1 John 3:1 [New Living Translation] *"See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are."*

Ephesians 4:7 [The Amplified Translation] *"Yet grace (God's unmerited favor) was given to each of us individually [not indiscriminately, but in different ways] in proportion to the measure of Christ's [rich and bounteous] gift."*

Prayer:

Father, I am so overwhelmed by how much you love me and how you give to me. I want to love You the way You love me, and I want to give to You the way You give to me. I ask for Your help in achieving my request where loving and giving is concerned. Open my heart to love You more. Remove hinderances in my life that obstruct me from giving to You with no strings attached. My desire is to reflect who You are and what You do as one of Your children. In the Name of Jesus I pray, amen!

Today, I need to pray for:

What is God telling me today?
