

2023 DANIEL FAST

R.E.A.L.

Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for

DAY 14

Romans 12:9-12 [The Voice Translation] *“Love others well, and don’t hide behind a mask; **love authentically**. Despise evil; pursue what is good as if your life depends on it. ¹⁰ Live in true devotion to one another, loving each other as sisters and brothers. Be first to honor others by putting them first. ¹¹ Do not slack in your faithfulness and hard work. Let your spirit be on fire, bubbling up and boiling over, as you serve the Lord. ¹² Do not forget to rejoice, for hope is always just around the corner. Hold up through the hard times that are coming and devote yourselves to prayer. ¹³ Share what you have with the saints, so they lack nothing; take every opportunity to open your life and home to others.”*

Authentic has become one of the “buzz” words of our current culture. Everyone wants to be authentic. Saying you are authentic is attractive and endearing, especially to Millennials, as well as to others. Authenticity is something that Millennials look for in people, companies they work for and patronage. A person or business that claims to be authentic is being transparent in who they are and what they do.

So, what does it mean to love people authentically? As a Christian we should speak to others in a personal and genuine manner. When we speak to people, we should not be pretentious, seeking to impress others. Loving authentically is having the finger on the pulse of those you are speaking with. In other words, they are important and have your full attention. We authentically love others when we believe the best of them without making shallow and preconceived opinions.

Loving authentically means God’s Word is our compass in how we treat, speak, attend to, help, listen to, and give to the person and people we are ministering to and those that we are building relationships and friendships with. God is calling us to love people well and He wants us to love them authentically. May we build life-long relationships that are a picture of what authenticity truly is.

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

Worship Song:

"Reckless Love"

<https://youtu.be/Sc6SSHuZvQE>

"Love authentically."

Anonymous Quote, *"It takes too much of our focus and energy to try to be anything but our authentic selves."*

Scripture Readings:

Psalms 86:11 [Good News Translation] *"Teach me, Lord, what you want me to do, and I will obey you faithfully; teach me to serve you with complete devotion."*

1 John 4:11 [Bible in Basic English] *"My loved ones, if God had such love for us, it is right for us to have love for one another."*

Prayer:

Father, I pray that You will help me understand and recognize what it means to love others authentically. My desire is to love people the way You love me. You love me authentically, through Your Word, through other people, and through my life in Christ. I want others to know that my love for them is authentic, without pretention and judgment. May I reflect the authenticity of the Kingdom of God. May it draw new relationships and friendships into my circle of life. I will love others well and I will love them authentically. In the Name of Jesus I pray, amen!

Today, I need to pray for:

What is God telling me today?
