# Love Thy Neighbor

Sameer and Tucker Manchanda

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

- Matthew 22:37-39

# How do you show love?

Love for God and the divine



He (the devil) always sends errors into the world in pairs--pairs of opposites...He relies on your extra dislike of one to draw you gradually into the opposite one. But do not let us be fooled. We have to keep our eyes on the goal and go straight through between both errors. We have no other concern than that with either of them.

- C. S. Lewis -

AZQUOTES

## How do you show love?

- Love for God and the divine
- Love for your family members
- Love for your friends
- Love for the community
- Love for the world's people

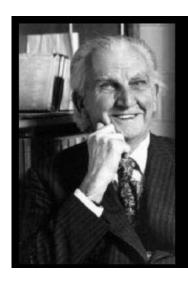


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## Why do you show love?



If our love ceases to expand, it will perish, as a tree planted in a narrow pot must perish if it does not break the vessel that confines it. But this is the mystery of love: that as it grows wider and wider, the narrower loves are not made less, but are made more perfect.

- Kenneth Boulding, Pendle Hill

- Love for God and the divine
- Love for your family members
- Love for your friends
- Love for the community
- Love for the world's people

We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

- John 4:19

Good and evil are not equal. Repel evil with good, and the person who was your enemy becomes like an intimate friend.

- Quran (41:34)

You shall not see your countryman's donkey or his ox fallen down on the way, and pay no attention to them; you shall certainly help him to raise them up.

- Deuteronomy 22:4

If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.

- Romans 12:20

# Case studies in loving challenging people

The Draft

**Prison Visitation** 



Martha Sleeper Jay



Allen Jay

#### Quaker Friend of the Prisoner

The visitation of prisons has been a Christian and a Friendly concern from the time that many Christians and Quakers spend portions of their own time in jail. With the passing of the years the viewpoint has changed until it now considers more the rehabilitation of the prisoner than the improvement of his surroundings... Our interest in visiting these prisoners was not to make them better men, but to simply bring a little light to a life that was drab enough already.

Quaker Friend of the Prisoner, Charles Crabbe Thomas, Friends Journal, 1956

#### Difficult Love

 How do we deal with increasing polarization and generalizing rhetoric towards groups of people without minimizing their actions? (ex - political parties, countries, oppressors)

Braver Angels



• The Peoples' Supper

#### Successful Love

Storytime!

 What motivates you to avoid generalizing rhetoric towards groups of people? (ex - political parties, countries, oppressors)

 In what dark places have you found the Light Within?



## Queries and Worship

From Ohio Yearly Meeting *Book of Discipline*:

Do we cherish a forgiving spirit, and strive to "walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us"?

Is each one of us careful for the reputation of others? Are we ever mindful to love our neighbor as ourselves?

If differences threaten to disrupt the Christian harmony between the members, is prompt action taken?

#### Queries and Worship

From Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice:

How do I demonstrate in my way of living, and in what I teach my children, that love of God entails acknowledging "that of God in every person"?

# Integrity

Integrity is the essential Quaker testimony and undergirds all other testimonies of Friends

William A. Cooper, *The Testimony of Integrity* 

Pendle Hill Pamphlet 206

## Integrity and Salvation

Integrity in its root meaning and search for wholeness leads to an even deeper sense of community... we need to associate the concept of integrity with the religious concept and experience of salvation. Now that may seem strange, because the word "salvation" is not fashionable anymore... The root meaning of "salvation" can be derived from the Latin salvus, which means "health" or "wholeness"... If the wholeness aspect of integrity leads to a sense of community of persons, likewise it can lead us to an experience of spiritual wholeness in our relationship with God.

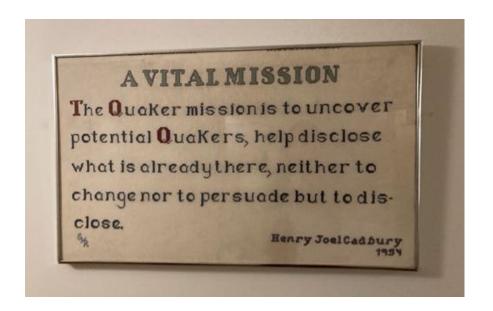
Wilmer A. Cooper, The Testimony of Integrity in the Religious Society of Friends

What is the relationship between love and integrity?

#### Love as ministry

 When has a Quaker separation ever encouraged others to say, "Behold, how these Quakers love one another"?

Allen Jay Autobiography, 1910



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Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Faith and Practice.

# Appendix A

**Extra Stories** 

# WWI: Rebuilding of France

During World War I, AFSC volunteers oversaw work by German POWs rebuilding in France. The French government forbid payment to Germans for their labor during the war, so the AFSC kept records of the work prisoners did, and paid them after the war.

Subsequently, the AFSC spent four years feeding up to 1 million children in German in an effort to combat hunger and malnutrition

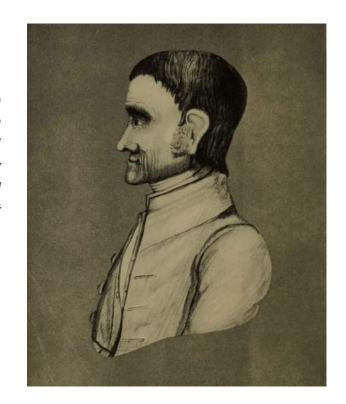


Dog cart with supplies for feeding program / AFSC

#### John Woolman

About this time, an ancient man of good esteem in the neighborhood came to my house to get his will wrote. He had young Negroes, and I, asking him privately how he purposed to dispose of them, he told me. I then said, "I cannot write thy will without breaking my own peace" and respectfully gave him my reasons for it. He signified that he had a choice that I should have wrote it, but as I could not consistent with my conscience, he did not desire it, and so he got it wrote by some other person. A few years after, there being great alterations in his family, he came again to get me to write his will... We had much friendly talk on the subject [slavery], and then deferred it, and a few days after, he came again, and directed their freedom, and so I wrote his will.

The Journal and Major Essays of John Woolman, Edited by Phillips P. Moulton (pages 50-51).



# Appendix B

Extra Quotes

## Why?

- We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. - John 4:19
- His power is made perfect in our weakness, and when we feel the weakest, we can overcome through Him. When the world sees that we can forgive those who hurt us, and we choose to love instead, they will know that we are truly disciples of Jesus. - John 13:35
- Perhaps God will plant affection between you and those of them you consider enemies. God is Capable. God is Forgiving and Merciful." Quran 60:7
- Good and evil are not equal. Repel evil with good, and the person who was your enemy becomes like an intimate friend. Quran (41:34)

## Why?

- Hatred never ceases through hatred in this world; through love alone hatred ceases. This is an eternal law. - Dhammapada (quote from the Buddha)
- Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that ... Hate is too great a burden to bear. - MLK
- If our love ceases to expand, it will perish, as a tree planted in a narrow pot must perish if it does not break the vessel that confines it. But this is the mystery of love: that as it grows wider and wider, the narrower loves are not made less, but are made more perfect. - Kenneth Boulding, Pendle Hill

#### How?

- Do not take vengeance, nor bear a grudge, nor respond to insults with insults.
  Do not rejoice when your enemy falls. Pirkey Avot 4:19
- Give your enemy 1,000 chances to become your friend. Fourth Caliph
- You shall not see your countryman's donkey or his ox fallen down on the way, and pay no attention to them; you shall certainly help him to raise them up. -Deuteronomy 22:4
- Just as the love of husband and wife is more constantly and perhaps more truly expressed in the quiet devotion of everyday life than in the ecstasies of courtship, so the love of God is expressed in a constant devotion and obedience, seated as much in the will as in the emotions. - Kenneth Boulding, Pendle Hill

#### How?

- Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2
- If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink;
  for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Romans 12:20
- We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. - Romans 15:1
- But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you - Matthew 5:44