

It's All About Family!



Topic #18: Sacrifice

When life gets hard, how often do we focus on our struggles and our stress? It's easy to sulk when we feel mistreated or unappreciated. But too often the only way we come to notice other people's pain is when they start complaining about it. Then we register their pain as a bad attitude, and we become upset with them, rather than seeing their struggles in the same way we see our struggles.

Love doesn't have to be jarred awake by another's obvious signs of distress. Love means being sensitive to other people's pain and working to provide support before they have to ask for it. Love makes sacrifices. It keeps you tuned in to the needs of others so that you can respond without having to be asked. And if you miss the signs and have to be told what's happening, love will respond to the root of the problem without allowing negative emotions to cloud the situation. Love acts with compassion. When a person speaks negatively to you, love helps you understand the true nature of the hurt and look past the negativity without becoming defensive. Most times, the best way to respond to a person who is hurting is to listen, attentively. Sacrifice a little bit of your time, and your love and support will go a long way.

Challenge #18: Sacrifice

What is one of the greatest needs that one of your close friends has right now? Is there a need you could lift from their shoulders today by a daring act of sacrifice on your part? Whether the need is big or small, purpose to do what you can to meet the need.