**Missing Peace:  Help, these people are driving me crazy!  12/01/24**

**Day 1: Choosing to Bless**

**Scripture:** Romans 12:14 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse."

**Reflection:** Today, reflect on the concept of blessing those who are difficult to love. Consider the Greek word "eulogeo," which means to speak well of or wish the best for someone. Think about someone in your life who has been challenging to love. How can you speak well of them or wish them well, even if they have hurt you?

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to bless those who have been difficult in my life. Give me the strength to speak well of them and wish them the best, just as You have blessed me beyond what I deserve. Amen.

**Day 2: Living as a Living Sacrifice**

**Scripture:** Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."

**Reflection:** Consider what it means to be a "living sacrifice." Reflect on how Jesus, the Lamb of God, willingly laid down His life. How can you lay down your own desires and responses to allow Christ to love others through you?

**Prayer:** Father, in view of Your mercy, help me to offer myself as a living sacrifice. Let my life be a true act of worship, loving others as You have loved me. Amen.

**Day 3: Overcoming Offense**

**Scripture:** Proverbs 19:11 - "A person’s wisdom yields patience; it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense."

**Reflection:** Reflect on the idea that being offended is inevitable, but living offended is a choice. How can you practice "real-time forgiveness" and choose to overlook offenses in your daily interactions?

**Prayer:** God, grant me the wisdom and patience to overlook offenses. Help me to rise above small grievances and focus on the greater calling You have for my life. Amen.

**Day 4: Living in Harmony**

**Scripture:** Romans 12:16 - "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."

**Reflection:** Reflect on the importance of living in harmony and avoiding pride and conceit. How can you listen to understand and love, rather than to respond or correct? Consider how Jesus calls us to be loving, not just right.

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to live in harmony with others. Remove any pride or conceit from my heart, and teach me to listen with love and understanding. Amen.

**Day 5: Living at Peace**

**Scripture:** Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

**Reflection:** Reflect on the call to live at peace with everyone, as far as it depends on you. Consider relationships in your life that may need healing or forgiveness. How can you take steps toward peace, even if reconciliation requires two?

**Prayer:** Father, as far as it depends on me, help me to live at peace with everyone. Guide me in healing broken relationships and choosing love over being right. Amen.

Each day, take time to meditate on the scripture, reflect on the questions, and pray for God's guidance and strength to live out these principles in your life.