

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

I would love to share this very precious verse with you from **John 15:9: . . . continue ye in my love.** His love is different from my love and your love. This is a divine love. This is the love of God that is . . . **. shed abroad in our hearts.(Romans 5:5).** From this love we realize comes the peace and the joy. It is this awesome love that fills our life when we are filled full of the Lord Himself. That is possible by the work of His Spirit inside of us, when we say we love and know Him.

By the Cross, He saves us out of our self. That is our number one problem in life. It is not those folk out there; it is that one in here: inside! You are looking in the mirror at yourself and you are trying to fix something. Perhaps it is your hair or your face or the clothes are all wrong, but really, you are missing it. The problem is inside – the self life! Therefore, it seems we will do anything but be willing to recognize that Christ saw us as being crucified with Him on the Cross. Two thousand years ago, we were crucified with Christ, if we know the Lord Jesus. Why do we hold onto the self? Why don't we want to face the fact we are crucified and reckon it? *Reckoning* is a word in the New Testament, which simply means that if you have two pennies, you cannot pretend they are three. You have to say what is really there

and count it as such: there are only two. All the reckoning in the world will never make it three! We have been crucified, and by His resurrection, He saved us that we might prove His resurrection life within. It is this resurrection life that does the service. It is not my service, and it is certainly not my fruit! If it is my fruit, what kind of fruit could it possibly be? No, it is His fruit, His service. That little verse - **continue ye in my love. (John 15:9)**. We love Him because He first loved us. Our love for Him is simply His love rising to its source and taking our hearts in on the way. Isn't that lovely? It is just the normal overflow of this love being allowed to work through us. The Lord spoke of the death of a grain of wheat. **(John 12:24)**. He spoke about it as if the grain of wheat does not go down into the ground and dies, it abides alone. In other words, He is showing that it has to go into the ground, so that there can be the resurrection and the fruitage. Death was not the goal; it was simply the pathway to the goal. The resurrection is the goal and the fruit is the goal.

I want to share this with you. We had a little box of seeds. They were the kind of seeds that if you put them in a little container and watered them, you could grow your own little sprouts that you could put on a salad. This was very helpful. There were like three little layers. The key thing was that you applied these seeds, then you put the water on, and out came the spouts! Now it is very interesting that we had moved to various places in the world, my husband and myself. For some

reason, this box of these little spouts had gone with us; wherever we went, we seemed to be always carrying it with us. Although I got them something like thirty-five years before, and there they were thirty-five years old in a box. I thought if this is correct — if this principle is correct — if these little seeds which had been rearranged and put in another place were really allowed to go to death, then they will bring forth sprouts. So what I did was to water these little seeds. And you know what? After all those years, life came through those seeds! Now just think about it. I had carried them here; I had carried them there; I had tried to rearrange them, thinking, “Well, you know, I will put them upside down or sideways and push them over here.” All of this planning did not produce life.

You know, that is just like our Christian life. We think that if we have a little women’s meeting, we are going to seat them in a certain way. Perhaps we will change where the chairs are and people will be more interested to come and listen. We are always trying to do the next activity of the flesh. But the whole idea is that it will never, never bring forth fruit if that seed is not allowed to go to death. How does it go to death? Well, when it was watered, it went into death. And what happened? It came out something totally different. Those sprouts did not resemble the seed that went into the ground.

There is a principle here that the Lord is trying to tell us. We dear

ladies so often get stuck in our mind that we have to do, do, do like the Martha complex, and we miss the point that the Lord says, “No. I have done it. It does mean you reckon yourself as dead as a grain of wheat which goes into the ground. Then My resurrection will come forth.” Therefore, it is no good shouting, “Oh, it hurts! I do not like this! What’s happening to me? This seed is getting all pushed around and oh goodness, something green is coming out of me, I do not like it!” No! It is resurrection life and resurrection life alone brings forth fruit, which is a different fruit: the fruit of the Lord Himself. It is that fruit that the Lord wants to produce through you. Will you say Yes to Him today? Let us know.

*In Jesus’ Name. Amen.*