



Love One Another – A Step of Faith

What if our experience of living with the difficulties of chronic illness is exactly what someone else needs to learn (even if they don't yet understand why) as they give, care for, and serve us in our moments of greatest need? Then in God's upside-down economy, in that encounter, what if we are ***serv***ing by ***humbly receiving*** their love?

Key Take-Aways:

- Our purpose and worth are not defined by what we do or don't do.
- There is a season for everything - even a season of tearing down which proceeds building up.
- Sit with God and receive His precious comfort as we mourn and grieve the ongoing losses of chronic illness.
- Love one another with my "nothing."

Suggested Personal Reading:

- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
- 2 Kings 4:1-7
- Mark 12:41:44
- Galatians 5:13
- Ephesians 3:20

Questions to Consider:

1. What thoughts swirl through your mind when you think about serving and chronic illness?
2. How do I understand purpose, serving, and giving in light of a paradigm shift from culture to Kingdom? What do each of those look like just for today? How can I begin each day bringing my “nothing” to God?
3. How can I embrace my worth as one who has something God-given, vital, and necessary to bring to the Body of Christ? How might I see myself differently if daily, I chose to believe my “nothing” is more than sufficient?
4. What is my “nothing”? Today, right where I am, exactly how I’m feeling, what has God entrusted into my care that I can give?

Pray

Gracious Heavenly Father,

Chronic illness is hard, but I choose to believe that in spite of, or perhaps because chronic illness affects my life, that my Widow’s mite is absolutely essential to Your Kingdom. Help me take that first step. Help me to trust You to take what culture sometimes says is “nothing”, but which You say is always life-giving, and let it bring honor and glory to You. Keep me on the path of hope, purpose, worth, and joy, so that I might humbly serve others in love. Amen.

Further Resources

- *A Little Pot of Oil: A Life Overflowing* ~ Jill Briscoe
- TedTalk - [Asking for help is a strength, not a weakness.](#)