

Where Is God in That?

Here are two definitions to consider. Once you review them, take a couple of minutes to answer the questions that follow.

Love: 1) an intense feeling of deep affection; 2) a great interest and pleasure in something.

Tolerate: to allow the existence, occurrence, or practice of something (that one does not necessarily like or agree with) without interference.

What are foods that you love? Which do you tolerate?
What are activities that you love? Which do you tolerate?
What music do you love? Which kinds do you tolerate?
What colors do you love? Which do you tolerate?
Who do you love? Who do you tolerate?

We don't get the luxury to *tolerate* people; we are called to *love*. Tolerating someone is easy. Loving someone whom you can hardly tolerate is much harder. It takes faith, a deep belief that God is love and that by loving our sisters and brothers we honor the image of God in them. This is how we love God in return.

Every time we find differences within a person, we can also find things we have in common. No matter how hard it may be, the foundation is the same. God created that person in God's image. We may not love or even tolerate the life decisions or choices someone makes, but God asks us to love that person regardless.

If we came upon a stranger who had fallen, before we go to assist them to their feet, should we stop and ask them about their political affiliations? What their faith background is? Or what their beliefs are? No. We go, extend a hand, and help them up. No questions asked. Maybe even with a smiling face and a reassuring voice. We do this without knowledge of who they are.

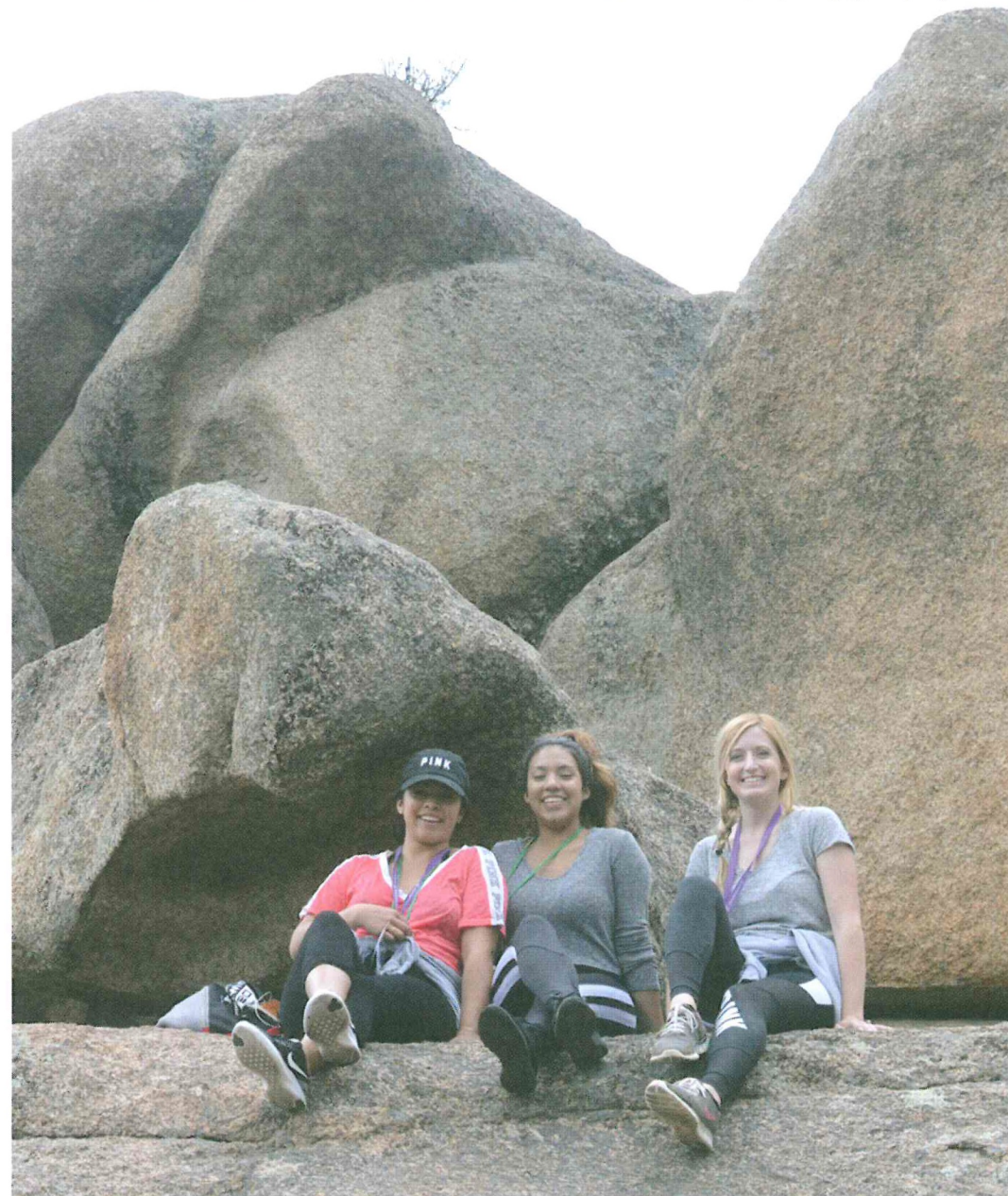
Then I ask you this: Why would our actions change if we knew the answers to those questions? Where is God in that?

—Logan JP Schrag
McPherson, Kansas

Text for today: "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we *love one another*, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us" (1 John 4:11-12, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21 (12); John 15:1-8.

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LOVE
ONE ANOTHER



Hanover Church of the Brethren

Youth Sunday & Mother's Day - May 9, 2021

601 Wilson Avenue
717-632-2267
E-mail: Hanover COB@gmail.com
Web: www.hanovercob.org
Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship 10:30 AM



Pastor - Geraldine Godfrey
Pastor's Office Hours:
Mon., Wed.—Fri. 10 AM to 1 PM
Phone: 717-428-2511
Pastor.GerryG@gmail.com

Engage, Embrace, Empower with the love of God
Hanover Mission Statement

Please be mindful of those who are meditating as we prepare for worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Mary, Did You Know?" arr. by Labenske

*CALL TO WORSHIP (by Chad Whitzel - National Youth Cabinet)

Leader: When my eyes reflect my loneliness,

Cong: ...the Lord turns to me and is gracious.

Leader: When my heart reflects my afflictions'

Cong: ...the Lord relieves the trouble of my heart.

Leader: When my soul is in distress,

Cong: ...the Lord comforts me with compassion.

Leader: When my soul is weary on the journey,

Cong: ...the Lord leads me in truth!

*GATHERING PRAYER

*GATHERING HYMN "To God Be The Glory" Red 31

OFFERING MEDITATION (by Alton Hipps - National Youth Cabinet)

In the scriptures, God promises to relieve the troubles of our hearts. We know that God's work on earth comes through many pathways, including through the church. By giving our worries up to God we are assured that God will fill in the gaps. By giving of our resources, we are allowing the church to live out that promise. Let us make more of life free of anguish for each other and our neighbors through our giving today. The offering plate is located in the rear of the sanctuary as you leave today.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

TIME WITH OUR YOUNGER CHILDREN

(Children may come forward.)

MOTHER'S DAY READING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER "Take Time to be Holy" vs. 1 & 3 Red 384

MORNING PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC "This I Pray" Choir
Soloist - Heather MacDonald

SCRIPTURE JAM Matthew 15:21-28

MORNING MESSAGE "Desperate Faith" Pastor Dick

*CLOSING HYMN "I Know Whom I Have Believed" Red 628

*BENEDICTION (by Chad Whitzel, National Youth Cabinet)

Leader: May we be open to the Lord's promise of grace for our afflictions.

Cong: May we be open to the Lord's promise of comfort for our distress.

All: May we be open to the Lord's promises that grant us peace, bring us hope and support us on the journey ahead. Let us go in peace. Amen.

Let us honor God's Presence with us as we listen to the postlude.

*POSTLUDE "Jesus Loves Me" arr. by Labenske

**Please stand if you are able.*

The youth will be handing out flowers to every woman here today!

We welcome each of you to our service today. We especially welcome any first time visitors and encourage you to fill out a pink card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate after the service.

Please make sure you have permission from individuals to share their names during joys and concerns or for placing in the bulletin and share their needs briefly. Thank you.

Handicap restrooms are available. Hearing devices & large print bulletins are also available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

Ministers to All The Congregation
Preacher Pastor Dick Godfrey
Worship Leaders..... Youth
Music Director/Pianist Roxie Schloyer
Head Usher Roger Bollinger
Deacons of the Month/Welcomers Dick & Sue Ambrosius
Bulletin Board..... Evelyn Cline

Announcements

WELCOME BACK - COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Your safety is our priority. Please remember to keep a physical distance of 6 feet, wear a face mask inside the building and wash your hands or use hand sanitizer. Please sit in the indicated pews staying 6 feet apart from non-family members. At this time there is no children's church. The restroom lights in the lower level restrooms will be turned on in the morning-please do not touch switch and turn them off - they will be turned off at the close of church each Sunday. Offering plates are at the back of the sanctuary to place your offering. After the service, socializing is encouraged in the parking lot out in the open air.

The Wired Word Class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

Attendance Registers - We have returned the sign-in sheets to our pews and ask that one person from the pew write down all those seated in the pew with you.

VBS - Christian Ed Commission is working on plans to have an "in-person" Vacation Bible School for children aged 3 through 5th grade to be held on June 25, 26 & 27. We are in need of adults and youth to be station leaders and crew guides. Please contact a member of the commission: Melissa Godfrey, Natalie DeRita or Mike Lawrence to help with this important ministry to our children.

Camp Scholarships of \$150 per camper are available for children and youth to attend Camp Eder this summer. There are five weeks of camping opportunities beginning June 20. Go to Camp Eder's website: www.camped.org. See a member of the Christian Ed Commission (Melissa, Natalie, or Mike).

Senior Citizens Luncheon - Sunday, May 16 following worship; sponsored by the Fellowship & Personnel Commission. Please sign up if you plan to attend so that the commission can plan accordingly. **The GLOW Group** will be helping with this event.

Council Meeting - May 19, 7 PM. Pick up your packet today.

Women's Camp at Camp Eder - June 7 & 8. Brochures and registration forms are on Narthex bulletin board or on-line at www.cob-net.org/church/sopa.

Graduate Recognition - June 13 - Please submit names and information to the church office by **May 16** to be included in the June/July newsletter.

Thank you note - Thanks everyone for the lovely birthday cards for my 88th birthday. I love you and miss you all. - Loretta Bollinger.

Please Uplift in Prayer

Names will be listed for 2 weeks unless ongoing concern.

Homewood at Plum Creek:

Jewel Amspacher - Room D142

Nancy Mummert - Room C105

Fay Swartz - Room E342

Hanover Hall:

Esther Brown - Room 219

John Paul Fike Sr. - Room 126A

Country Meadows:

Bonnie Berwager - Apt 311

Spring Creek Rehab:

Sonja Bankert

Utz Terrace:

Evelyn Dickensheets - Room 422

Normandie Ridge Sr. Living:

Norma Becker - Room 122A

Shut ins: Jake Berwager, Dean Brodbeck,

Miriam Mills, Charlie Sell, Dale Sullivan

Betty Stockslager, Don Conrad, Bruce Plunkert, Fred Markle,

Amber Shaw, Kamane Brantley, Clyde & Janet College

Church Activities This Week

Sunday, May 9 Sunday School - 9 AM

Youth Sunday/ Mother's Day Worship - 10:30 AM

Monday, May 10 Commissions Meet - 6 PM

Church Board Meets in the sanctuary - 7 PM

AlAnon - 7 PM

Barbershoppers using fellowship hall 7 to 9 PM

Tuesday, May 11 AA - 8 PM

Wednesday, May 12 Prayer Group & Bible Study - 6 PM

Choir Rehearsal - 7 PM

Friday, May 14 AA - 6 PM

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 16 Sunday School - 9 AM

Singspiration Worship - 10:30 AM

Sr. Citizen's Luncheon - noon

Glow Group - Noon to 1:30 PM

Information due for June/July Newsletter

Wednesday, May 19 Church Council Meeting - 7 PM

Thursday, May 20 Connections - 7:30 PM

Our Faithful Stewardship - May 2, 2021

Attendance: Sunday School - 26 Worship - 58

Giving: General Fund \$ 3,082.50 Building Rental \$ 5

Community Aid Bin \$ 435.50