

God's Bouquet of Love

"Call in! Your chance to throw a brick or a bouquet!"

The radio host was inviting his coast-to-coast listeners to air a grievance or grudge against someone—their chance to get even. Or they could call in and compliment someone. The choice was theirs!

Most were angry callers with a grudge and a beef to air. The disturbing thing was that they were taking fiendish delight in putting people down and flattening them before the public. The radio airwaves were thick with tension and hate.

Then came the call that changed things. A sweet lady was calling in to tell her teenage niece how much she loved her. "I want to throw her a bouquet tonight," she said, "to express my love for her."

The love coming through the airwaves with that call was so real that I *felt* it! It poured right into my heart. Then I felt something else—in the presence of this stranger's love expressed for her niece, I was feeling the very presence of a loving God! It overtook the previous cold hate and tones of getting even and brought new warmth and encouragement!

The Word of God tells us "God is love" (1 John 4:8). *Why then wouldn't God be present when we show love to others?* It also tells us that we are His ambassadors (see 2 Corinthians 5:20). As His ambassadors, we are called to walk in forgiveness and

His compassion even if we walk away from the things that disturb us.

As followers of Jesus Christ, seek to become pleasing to Him as His ambassadors of kindness and encouragement, not just on Valentine's Day but every day. Our hearts should be the very reflection of God's heart in this lost and dying world.

Think of those who are alone or separated from loved ones and need to feel God's awesome and unconditional love for them. Some are in the military and they and their families need to be comforted by God's presence and the awareness of His love.

Many in hospitals feel alone and fearful of what lies ahead concerning their health. They need to know that a loving God is there 24/7 working through the doctors and medical professionals to meet their needs. Both patients and those serving the patients need to know God's love and be encouraged by it.

This Valentine's Day, perhaps one of the best bouquets we could give the complex world around us is to offer a smile, a kind word, an encouraging attitude. In such a bouquet will be a fragrance that goes beyond flowers—the very fragrance of the living and loving Jesus.

PRAYER POWER FOR THE WEEK OF 2/13/12

This week ask God to enlarge your capacity to receive more of His love so that it overflows to others. Pray for those separated from their loved ones in this season, especially those in the military or suffering loss

through death or
divorce. Remember those in need and ask God to show you
opportunities where you
can express His love through sharing, giving and serving.
Continue to pray for
Israel and the persecuted church when you pray for our own
nation. Thank God
for His continued mercy on us and pray that a spirit of
repentance and revival
would spread through our churches, the nation and around the
world. 2 Chron.
7:14; Jer. 33:3

*To enrich your prayer
life and learn how to strategically pray with power by using
appropriate
scriptures, we recommend the following sources by Apostle John
Eckhardt: Prayers that Rout Demons, Prayers that Bring
Healing, Prayers that Release Heaven on Earth and Prayers that
Break
Curses. To order any or all of these [click here](#).*