

Love – the Proof is in the Pudding

This year Lent falls before St. Valentine's Day. It seems fitting that Lent and Valentine's should be commingled. Both have Love as their theme. We tend to associate St. Valentine's Day with romantic love and overly sentimentalize it. It doesn't seem coincidental that most calendars have dropped the "Saint" altogether. Lent, on the other hand, tends to be viewed as a sad time. This also misses the point. It is a somber time, and a penitential time, but not a season for despair. Instead, Lent is the season where we see "the proof in the pudding." God is actively in love with us!

We also use the phrase, "actions are louder than words." God's actions always speak louder than words. In fact, God's Word and God's actions are one and the same. God's Word is always active. In Genesis 1 we see over and over that "God said, let there be...and it was so."

In Lent we truly see God's love in action in Jesus' journey to the cross. No wonder that we call this the passion of Christ! **Romans 5:8** says, "But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." Christ's death made us children of God. **1 John 3:1** "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are." We are freed by His love, and we are free to imitate the Father and share that active love. The proof will be in the pudding. Go. Love.

Peace,
Pastor Chris