

Today's readings ask us to reflect on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, to be a prophet and a friend of God. Truly, we are all friends of God and disciples. We celebrated this at our baptism. We live it out in our world today, every time we offer someone a helping hand or love the people in our lives with God's love.

We don't do it alone. Our baptism united us to God and to one another in a way that is grace-filled yet indefinable. We can love with Christ's love because we are first loved. I offer this short meditation on the power of love. Close your eyes if you are comfortable and receive these words:

Think about all the people that love you. Just let their names and faces and come into your mind's eye...into your heart...and feel their love...know that you are cared for and connected to these people....and know that with all that love that you are feeling there is even more, immeasurably more love in you because of God's love.... God's love alive in you, ...and today as you claim your discipleship once again, you are called to open your hearts and receive that love, ....and then share that love with others, near and far, known or unknown to you.

This week let us open our hearts to this tremendous love, allowing it to fill us and flow through us to all we meet these days. Amen.

