

Monday - April 15

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

When I was a young child, we lived next door to another young family, the Days. My parents were divorced and we were being raised by my father; I rarely saw my own mother. Mr. and Mrs. Day had two young children of their own and they were the same ages as my younger sister and myself.

Being a mother myself, I know how busy life is, especially with young children. I am sure Mrs. Day's life was no different than any other mother but what made her unique and special was the time and love that she found to give that little girl next door, me. I remember shadowing her around her house just to spend time with her. I have a fond memory of her allowing me to help her iron her husband's clothes. I chuckle now because I would iron his work socks. I am certain at the time I thought I was being a big help, but I know now that she was giving me the gift of what all young children really need, time with someone who cares about them.

We had a neighborhood church just a couple blocks from my home where the Day's worshipped. I have many memories being there as a young child and teenager but oddly enough I don't remember who took me there in the first place. I suspect it was the Day family because my father never went to church. I do remember there being an event at a church in another town. We had to dress up and I doubt I had anything nice enough to wear. I recall how Mrs. Day secretly showed my 1st grade teacher the dress she surprised me with to wear to the event and how excited I was to go with her and her family.

When I am asked if I was raised in a religious home, I always say no, but I still knew who God was. As I reflect on how Mrs. Day showed me love when she had no obligation to do so, I know that it was really God working in and through her. God's grace and love has always been there in my life, just as it continues to be there today.

Kris

Prayer: Loving God, we will never be fully worthy of your grace and love, but regardless you give it to us freely. It is not because of what we have done or ever can do to earn it, but because of who You are and who we are in You! Amen.