

## Wednesday - March 25

*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment.*

*Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)*

For many years not being able to accept life on life's terms prohibited me from receiving the peace that Jesus so freely offers me. It never occurred to me that the discontent I felt in the circumstances of my life was directly linked to my expectations and my self-centeredness. Acceptance with the circumstances in my life has been a journey that is directly related to having less of me in my heart and more of God in my heart.

In recent months I have found myself venturing away from acceptance as my "young adult" children are in decision making phases. Selfishly, I think my way is the right way. I find myself reacting out of fear and worry that their lives aren't going to be pain free and easy rather than trust that God is in control and knows what is best for them. Once again, this is me being self-centered. More me, less God. When I want things my way, I am blocking the peace Jesus wants for me in trusting God's plan for my children. When I prevent His peace from my life, I am not able to give His peace and love to others. When I am loving others, I am drawing nearer to my Savior who taught us to follow the greatest commandment. Journeying through my life, I confess I forget that loving God with my whole heart is the path that leads to my acceptance and trust in all things. Acceptance leads me to receive the peace of Jesus and in return I can give that peace to another person.

Kristina

**Prayer:** Jesus, today, I turn all fear and worry over to God. My desire is to love God with all my heart and to receive the peace in my heart that You want for me. Amen.