

To live a life of love means to see to it that love truly becomes the very life, the very being, of the soul, of the heart, of the mind. It means that we must love with all our strength – all of our energy must always be employed in loving God. This is the precept handed down to us by Our Lord. “As the Father hath loved Me, so also have I loved you. Abide in My love.” To abide signifies a continuous action; in love means not just in the simple state of grace, but in affective and effective love. It means a spiritual health condition of the soul. It is a **condition**, not just a simple habit of gathering up bouquets of spiritually meritorious activities or actions or prayers.

With strong emphasis we point out that this way of living is best realized by those who live in monasteries and convents. The atmosphere conducive to such a life is best found in monasteries and convents. But not everybody can live in such restricted places. What about those who do not have a religious vocation? Most people are not called to religious life. Most people are forced by circumstances to live life in the jungle of the marketplace. How then are the vast numbers of people whose will is good and who give the salvation of their soul top priority; how are they to fulfill the desires of their heart? The same demand applies to all, and all must adhere to this demand by the fervor of the will, not by sentiment and cushy feelings. The ones in the marketplace need have little concern as to how this precept is to be fulfilled by them. It is obvious that they are constantly surrounded by the countless exigencies that accompany even the most trivial of works met with in the earning of their bread during an ordinary day in the streets of the world. Is there any hope for this vast family of God? Most absolutely and certainly so. Salvation for the ones on the street is as much desired for them as it is desired for the man or woman who lives in a monastic enclosure. All must live amidst the various distractions caused by their countless daily occupations. It must be understood that this cannot but be so!

If the conditions of the hearts and minds of men are as **God** has traced them out to be in space and time, then we must never let the unbearable – and usually concocted – restrictions traced out by the bitter zeal of bitter and unhappy men be a cause for worry and fear, whoever and wherever we may be. It is not for any of us to do any sifting of souls. We are not the judges of anybody! We sift out absolutely nobody. That is the business of God, and God alone. Unfortunately there exists a vast number of souls who do not wish to participate in the awesome work of salvation. This is a specialized choice in many cases. In many cases, too, placement of people is arranged by the infinitely perfect and wise and loving will of God. Even in situations such as these, judgment remains the business of God alone – it is not our work or worry. We pray for all