

Love Enough

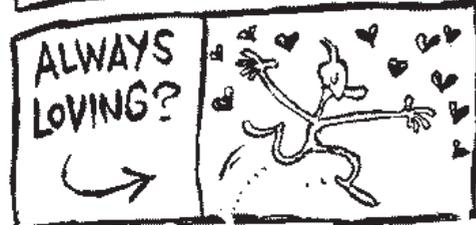


Someone doesn't have to be perfect in order to deserve your love. They don't have to be faultless or have a personality that makes them easy to like or get along with. No one is perfect.

As representatives of Jesus, we should be known for our love. Jesus said in John 13:35, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples" (NLT).

And yet there are many reasons why we might lack love for others:

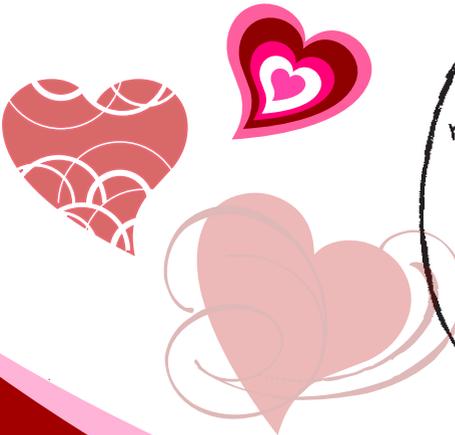
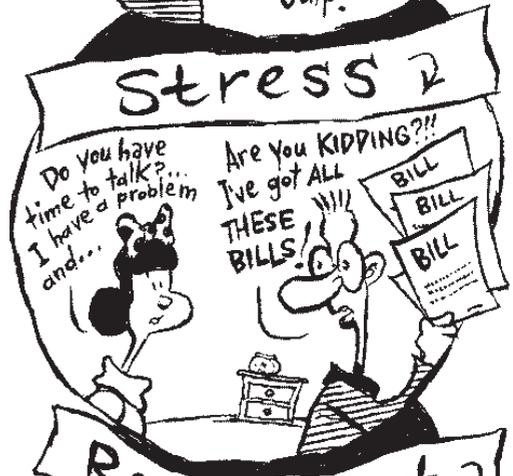
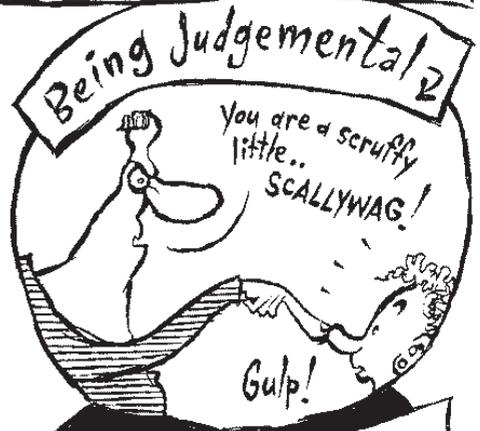
- Being judgmental or self-righteous.
- Pride. You can only be truly loving when you are humble.
- Stress. At the time, nothing seems as important as what is stressing you. Stress pushes love down on the priority list.



NO ONE IS PERFECT!

Some ROADBLOCKS to being LOVING...

- Self-centeredness. When you're focused on your own needs and what you want to do, you can't even see the needs of others, much less be bothered to fill them.
- Lack of faith; thinking that giving to others will cause you to lose in some way.
- Resentments; those can hinder your ability to love for a long time—until you are willing to leave the past behind and risk trying again.
- Laziness; expecting someone else to make the move or give the love that's needed to others.
- Selfishness; feeling that what you already do is enough.





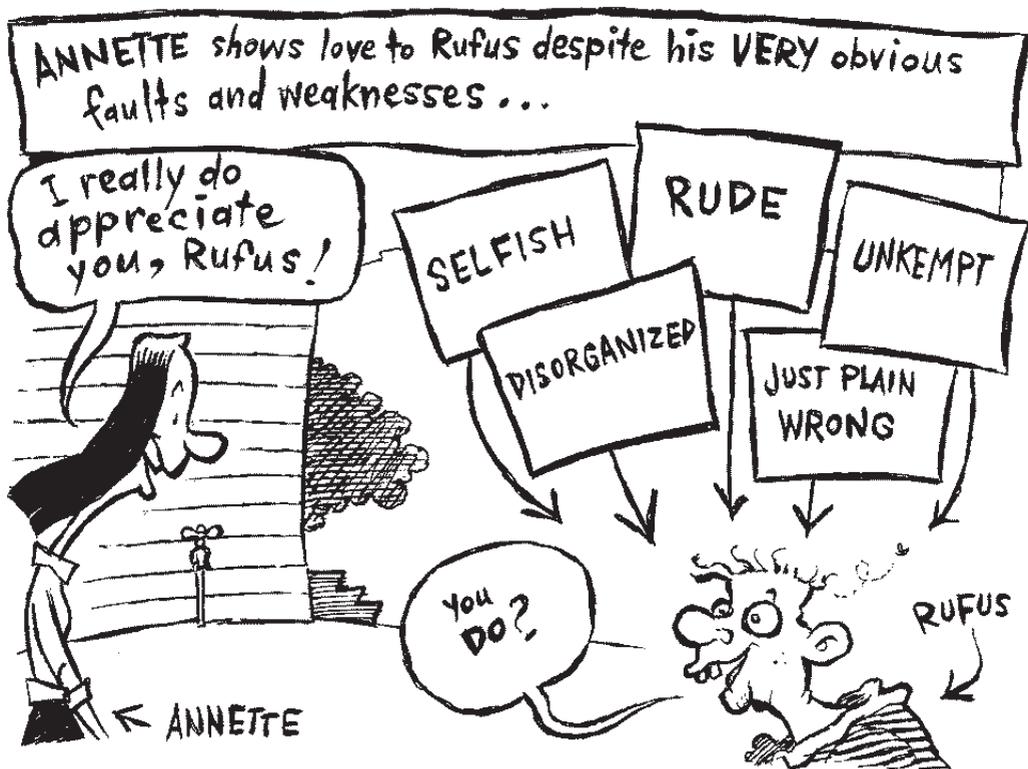
But these excuses aren't valid, because Jesus' love is strong enough and pure enough to withstand our human faults and sins and mess-ups.

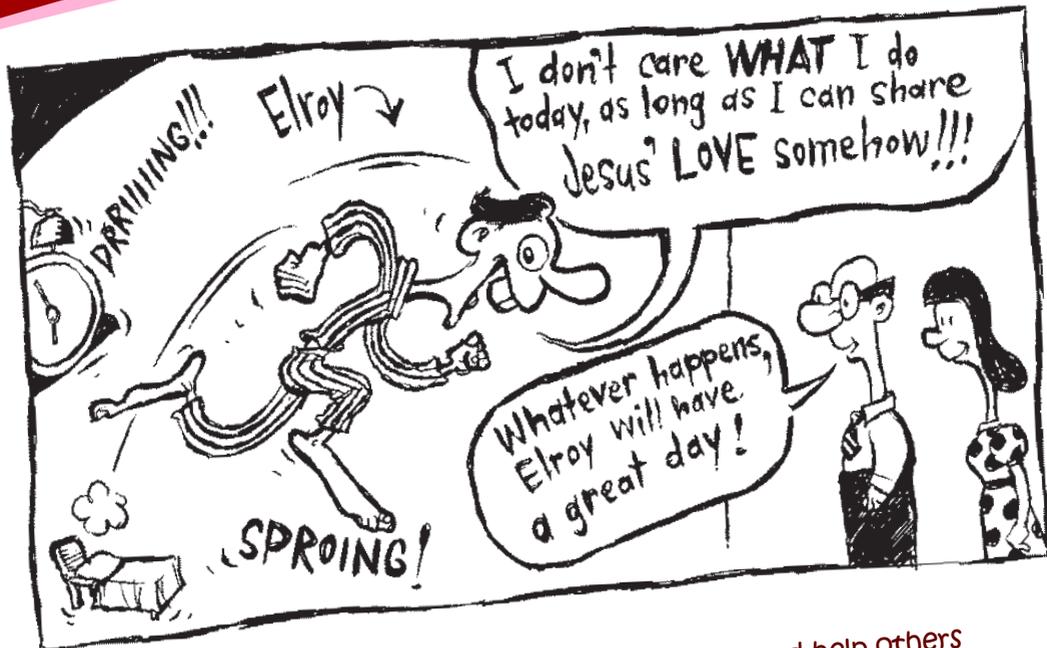


Ask Jesus to give you some of that kind of love—love that loves whether you naturally click with the person, whether you feel you have the time to spare, whether you feel the person is worthy or deserving of your love, whether you feel their need is great.



Love that loves even if someone is disturbing your personal space or changing your perfect plans. Love that appreciates each person for who they are—someone that Jesus loves and that He has put beside you, and wants to love through you. Love that loves even if the person is late or selfish or rude or unkempt or disorganized or just plain in the wrong.





Love is what will guide you to stop what you're doing and help others because they have a need. Love will help you to see others through the Lord's eyes and be willing to do whatever is necessary to show them love.

