

Puppies

A Two-Minute Thought by Eric



This is our dog. She is mostly a Beagle, but also part sneaky-neighbor-dog (most likely a Black Lab). Imagine a kinda fat dog wearing a tuxedo and that's what Cory looks like. She was free and we got her almost 5 years ago when we responded to an ad in the local newspaper. Puppies are fun. But they are also a lot of work. They require a lot of commitment, devotion, patience, and love along with discipline and training. The end result should be a happy, healthy, obedient dog who, for all intents and purposes, is a member of the family.

In some ways, I think of us as God's puppies. God is committed to us. He has unbelievable patience for our shortcomings, neglect, and stubbornness as well as overflowing love for everything that we are. One reason I think of us as God's puppies is that even when the puppy grows up, it will still rely on its master to provide, to guide, to feed and nourish, and to help when it's called for. That's part of what it is to be dependent on God - to lean on Him for everything that we truly need. And He will provide for us without failing.

His investment in us is not proportionate to what we give back, in my opinion. He nurtures, guides, perseveres through my stubbornness, and even gave up His own son so I may have freedom from sin. So what can I do to show my appreciation? Love Him. Impel His kingdom by being a living example of His love and understanding. Become a reflection of who He is to everyone around us.

I look at my dog and think of what I've invested in time and effort and how insignificant it is compared to what God has sacrificed. Our dog will never know how much was actually sacrificed just like we really will never truly know what it took for God to do what He did for us. But a smile comes to my face when our dog wags her tail and licks my face and in her own way lets me know that I'm loved. What are we doing to show God that He is loved and appreciated? Take time to let Him know how happy you are for what He has invested in you. I imagine it would bring a smile to His face.