

and love is easy and makes all things easy. And if we are to strive it is not in our own weakness, but we are to strive to know our own weakness, and to seek God's strength, and God's grace is easily obtained by those who seek it earnestly, and we can then do all things in Him who strengthens us. Let us think a little of the power of love and the power of grace.

Love.—Our Blessed Lord did not multiply precepts; He simplified them; He reduced them all to the one precept of charity. To this He gave new force, new sanction, new example. It is by teaching us to love God and our neighbor, that Our Lord has made the road of salvation easy. The royal Prophet said: « I have run the way of Thy commandments, when Thou didst enlarge my heart.» (Ps. 118.) But few hearts were enlarged by love previous to Our Lord's coming. Now, on the contrary, love has become easy for all who will use their Christian faith. Love is easy, and love makes all else easy. This is the whole secret of the Christian religion; so that if Our Lord said that the road to heaven is narrow, He said also that His yoke is sweet and His burden light. (Matt. 11-30.)

This is surely not difficult to understand. Every one has had experience of the power of love in some shape. Children love their parents, parents their children, husbands their wives, and friends their friends. Who, then, does not know that when moved by love he can do things easily that without love would be irksome and intolerable. You, laboring men, do not enjoy an easy luxurious life. You get up at half past five and toil till dusk to earn but scanty wages. It is the love of your wife and children that makes you get up so early in the morning, love of your wife and children that keeps up your courage during the day, and when at the end of the week you find that you can pay the rent, and buy food and clothes, not only for yourselves but for your loved ones, then you count as little the toil of the week. But suppose that your wages went not to your family, but to an enemy or to some one unknown or indifferent to you, you would feel your lot hard indeed, and life would be a burden quite intolerable.

Well, then, is there any one so foolish as to think, that if earthly love can sweeten toil, there is less power in the love