



October 29, 2012

## Just Across the Street

By Teresa Hampton

One morning after worship I heard the most beautiful words expressed by a sister in Christ. She told the woman standing next to me, “I hope your mansion in heaven is next to mine” Turning to me she said, “and I hope your mansion is just across the street.”

Her expression of love will remain in my heart for years to come. That’s the way we Christians should feel about all brothers and sisters in Christ, right? But, do we? Are there some that we would not want living next door to us in heaven?

If so, we must contemplate John’s words, *Beloved let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another* (1 John 4:7-10).

God’s desire is that we love one another, even those who may not be easy to love. It is a love that is committed to the good of the other person, a love of devotion. John says if we allow this kind of love to fill us up, we will have no fear on the day of judgment. *Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world* (v. 17). Our goal, then, is to be as He is while we live on earth, so that with boldness we can approach the God of love!

**Today’s Verse:** *In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.* (John 14:3).

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