

A new love in my life

I was warned it might happen. My friends and family told me that when I got to this age I could find myself falling for a new love. Many had gone through it themselves and said it was inevitable. If the opportunity presented itself it would hit me hard.

Sure enough it did. The smiles, the eyes and the personality of this new young man in my life have won me over completely. I am besotted and I can't stop talking about him. I share photos and videos with friends, family and even with strangers. I have even bought him gifts.

Now you might wonder how my husband feels about this. After all, we have been married over thirty years. It must be a shock to wake up one morning to find his wife has lost her heart in this way.

But it is ok. He has too. After all, our new grandson is adorable.

I am a grandmother for the first time. Gavin was born in February, bringing baby coos and joy to our lives. And come July, a little cousin will join him and grandma's house will become the 'go to' house for fun and play and hugs and cuddles.

The reality is that as people told me what I would feel, I found it hard to accept that I would be this passionate. I knew I would love my grandchildren but I was completely unprepared for the experience of holding Gavin in my arms and looking at my proud daughter and son-in-law as they began this new role in their lives.

It truly has to be experienced to be understood.

It has reminded me of my spiritual journey. I was very young when I first became aware of my need of a relationship with God through Christ. I still remember my mother praying with me and helping me to understand that Jesus could be my friend. I didn't understand all the theology; I just knew that this would be a good thing.

In the 49 years since then, I have never regretted that decision. My history with God has proven to me that God, who reached out to me and brought me in to His family through Jesus, loves me with an everlasting love.

How do I explain this to others? How do I share with those who have never tasted and seen how good is the love of God? How can I let them know what it is like to walk with Jesus?

My thoughts turn to my little grandson. As I held him in my arms I thought of all those who told me how wonderful it was. I could not know until I experienced it. Now every moment of everyday convinces me of the truth that had been spoken to me.

Romans 8: 38-39 says,

'For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

These are not the words of someone who has spent their Christian life in ease. Paul experienced hardship and pain and anguish. He also experienced great joy. And through it all, he knew that he would not be forsaken. God's love in Christ Jesus surrounded him.

God loves you. He wants to have a relationship with you. My prayer is that you will come to know the joy that millions have experienced. It is a joy that must be experienced to be fully comprehended.

Reverend Barbara Moulton