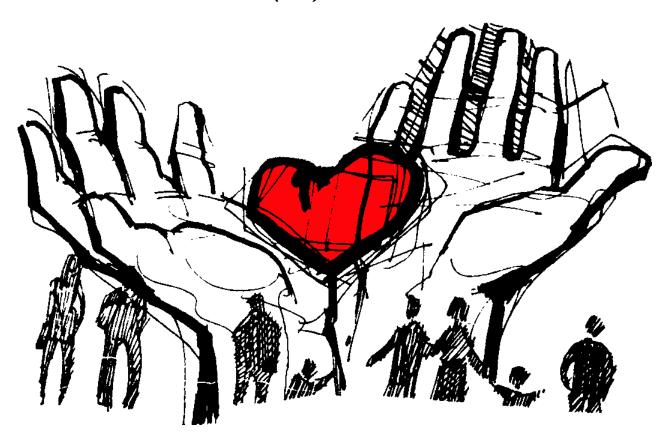
Devotional: God's Anger and Love in Harmony

Scripture Anchor

"The LORD is a God compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." — $Exodus\ 34:6\ (NIV)$



Let's Think It Through

• Question to ponder: What comes to your mind when you hear the words "God's anger" and "God's love"?

Pause a moment. You might picture God being upset when people are unkind, but also deeply loving, always ready to forgive. Yet, how can God's anger and love both be true?

Understand Together

- The Bible shows that God's anger isn't like ours. It's not loss of control or selfish outburst; it's a just response to wrongdoing. God's anger warns and quides, not destroys.
- That concern and anger stem from deep love—like a parent upset when a child runs into danger. God's ultimate purpose is to lead us toward good, not pull us away.
- That love and justice come together in Jesus—God's anger at sin and unwavering love for us meet through forgiveness and redemption.

Dig Deeper

- What does "God is slow to anger" mean to you? Maybe it means He gives second chances, waits patiently even when we mess up.
- How does knowing anger doesn't cancel love make you feel about God?
- Have you ever seen someone express anger rooted in care—like a coach pushing you harder, or a friend calling you out to protect you? How was that different from anger that hurt you?

Live It Out

- Show patient love in your friendships. When someone annoys you, pause before reacting—remember God is slow to anger with you.
- Blend fairness and care. If someone does something wrong, correct them gently, just like God's anger guides toward better choices.
- **Practice forgiveness**. Holding grudges isn't how God treats us—He forgives and forgets. Try forgiving someone who upset you.

Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for Your love and Your patience with me. Help me understand that Your anger isn't punishment, but love directing me. Teach me to care deeply, set healthy boundaries, and forgive others as You've forgiven me. Amen."