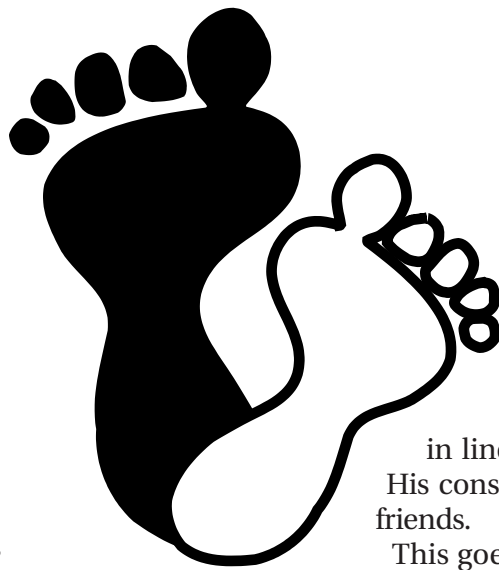


# OTHER FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

*To everything  
there is a  
season, and a  
time to every  
purpose  
under heaven:  
a time to  
weep, and a  
time to laugh ...  
a time to  
mourn, and a  
time to dance.*

—The Bible, Ecclesiastes  
3:1,4 KJV



Imagine you and Jesus are walking down the road together. For much of the way, the Lord's footprints go along steadily, consistently, with Him rarely varying the His stride or direction. But your footprints are a disorganized stream of zigzags, starts, stops, turnarounds, circles, departures, and returns.

Then gradually your footprints come more in line with the Lord's. Eventually they parallel His consistently. You and Jesus are walking as true friends.

This goes on for many miles, but then you notice another change. Suddenly the second set of footprints is back, but the pattern is even worse than at the beginning! Zigzags all over the place, stops, starts, deep gouges in the sand, a hodgepodge of messy prints! You are surprised and puzzled. Your dream ends.

Now you pray: "Lord, I understand the first scene with zigzags. I was a new Christian. I was just learning. But You walked on through the storm and helped me learn to walk with You."

*Very good. You have understood everything so far.*

"So, Lord, was there a regression or something? The footprints separated, and this time it was worse than at first."

There is a pause as the Lord answers with a smile in His voice, *You didn't know? That was when we danced.*

—Author unknown

## My love

My love is manifested to you in many different ways. You feel that I don't love you. You can't recognize My love; you can't find My love. But My love is manifested to you in every joy and pleasure that you feel in life, in every supply of your need. This is My love for you. Every time one of your brothers or sisters, your husband or wife or sweetheart, your mother or father or uncle or aunt takes you in their arms and gives you love and encouragement and affection, this is My love for you.

Every time you feel the need and you go to My Word and you find

strength and inspiration to go on, this is My love for you. When you lie down at night, so tired and weary from your labors, and you find sweet sleep and refreshment to your body and spirit, this is My love for you.

In times of relaxation, when you find recreation and enjoyment and laughter, this is My love for you. When you go out to help others, and you pour out your heart to a hungry soul and you are able to give them the answers that they are looking for and lead them to Me, and you experience that thrill of sharing the truth with another human being, this is My love for you.

In every new thing that you learn, and every new experience that you

have, in every way that you find satisfaction and joy and challenge and contentment of heart and rest of spirit and comfort to your body—all this is My love to you.

The more you recognize Me in these everyday affairs of your life, and the more you learn to appreciate these little things that I give you and these little ways that I manifest Myself to you, the more you will grow to know My love and appreciate My love and feel it.

I love you—right now, every day of your life—and I will always love you. My love is yours forever.

—Jesus

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