

# Connecting New

March, 2020

Many of us grew up approaching Lent as a time to give something up, for instance candy or soda. As we matured, we may have evolved into letting go of something even more challenging, like a grudge against someone who hurt us.

This month I want to suggest that we take a different approach. Rather than us choosing how we may through our intentions and actions grow a bit closer to God, we could simply notice and accept how God is inviting us to come closer to Her/Him. The invitation I noticed has a lot of fur, four legs and bounding energy.

Everyone Knows

Barking, jumping, exuberant  
surely nothing could be more important  
or urgent  
than to give me your attention  
play with me, I'll nip at you  
chase me around or I'll chew your shoe  
again  
tug of war and "drop it"  
again  
louder and repeated  
again  
still unsuccessful, so revert to a distraction treat  
again

Yet there are those less frantic peaceful  
cuddly snuggly moments  
now and then  
here and there

Why must you have such puppy energy,  
challenging me to lighten up and let it go?  
Are you a messenger from God who too easily  
provokes me to short-tempered crab?  
If so, Dear One, help me fall in line  
because you love me unconditionally,  
and everyone knows  
the process of dog training works in both directions.

May we today and every day, notice and welcome what God is yearning for us  
to receive.

Peace and Blessings,  
Clarence

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