



**Welcome to the first week of September!**

I just love this picture of her! When you look in her eyes, can't you just see the light of love and determination? Do you know who this is? You may or may not have recognized her, but this is a photo of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta (age 18)! Her birth date was August 26, 1910.

I always take pause on her birthday because her life inspires and challenges me in significant ways. Through her living she taught me (all of us), to make our lives a living prayer, love the unwanted, see the person in front of you as Jesus, offer compassion and dignity- without exception. Yep, a very tall order indeed.

Several years ago, I attended a leadership conference with Steven Covey. He helped develop the term "proactive living." He defined a proactive life as a product of one's decisions, not conditions. Furthermore, the proactive person lives one's life on values. The proactive person is a positive force and agent of change-**Do It Anyway!**

The prayer below was found next to St. Mother Teresa's bedside. This prayer is the essence of a proactive life, a life dedicated to Christ even in very difficult living conditions. In these current times of unrest in our country, I turn to these words that remind me to **-Love Anyway!**

**People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.**

**If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.**

**If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.**

**What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.**

**If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.**

**The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.**

**Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.**

**In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.**

**FACT:** Tirana International Airport (Nënë Tereza) is the only international airport in Albania. It was named after St. Mother Teresa in 2001 but is commonly known as Rinas International Airport. Albania is a predominately Muslim country.

**LINK: Anyway- Tina McBride:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uLtyzRgmyI>

Have a wonderful week filled with hope, love, and peace-

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