



Love ... What the World Needs Now ...

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

July 19, 2020

Whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. – 1 John 4:7-8

Each generation adds one more link in a growing chain of pain that often seems unbreakable...unless someone recognizes what's wrong, deliberately rejects the examples played out before his or her eyes ... and chooses to allow the Lord to help them mark a new path. Bitterness, hatred, and relational rancor abounds. What we need now is a revival of Love.

### Some Overarching Principles of Love ...

- I. God is \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. 1 John 4:8, 16
- II. Loving Each Other is \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. Matthew 22:36-39
- III. Loving Each Other is Like Fulfilling \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. Matthew 22:40; Romans 13:8-10
- IV. Faith Expresses itself \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. Galatians 5:6; James 2:17; 1 John 3:14
- V. Loving Each Other is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity ...  
Cp. John 13:34-35; Acts 2:45
- VI. The Goal of our Instruction \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. 1 Timothy 1:5
- VII. In the Last Days, Love will \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. Matthew 24:9-12
- VIII. The Absence of Love is not a \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
Cp. 2 Timothy 3:1-5

### Some Reflection ...

- I. Where Differences Exist, there also exist \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for Genuine Expressions of Love
- II. \_\_\_\_\_ a Lot of Mistakes, Blunders, & Failures
- III. I long to Personally Grow in Love, \_\_\_\_\_?

## Truth for Life

For the week of July 19, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Think about the word love. What does it mean to you? How can you know when you have loved someone? How do you know when you have been loved?  
  
Have you ever attempted to love someone, and they did not receive it as your attempt to love? What happened? Where was the disconnect?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 13 in a few translations. Let's focus on verse 4. What are the characteristics of love defined within this verse? Write out those characteristics. Define each characteristic. Look up those definitions if you need to for further clarification.  
  
How does each characteristic fit into loving? How does the absence of each affect one's attempt to love?  
  
Which one of these characteristics do you perform best? Which one do you struggle the most?
3. Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5. Paul is describing the relational struggles that we will see as we approach the last days. Do you see any of those struggles present in our day? Which ones? Give examples of what you have observed.  
  
How could genuine expressions of love affect these relational struggles?
4. What if we have attempted to express genuine love to someone and they have misused that love or something worse? When are we free to no longer express love in a relationship? Find Scriptural support for your answer.
5. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder.
  - a. Why is it important to recognize that love is a command, not a feeling? If we obey the command without the feelings, are we being hypocritical?
  - b. It is often said, "Love the sinner, but hate the sin." Is this biblical? Consider Ps. 5:5-6; 139:21; Jude 23. How do we reconcile the command to love with verses such as these? What are the biblical guidelines?
  - c. How can we develop godly hatred for evil and yet express genuine love?

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- II. Loving Each Other is **Like Loving God** ...  
Cp. Matthew 22:36-39
- III. Loving Each Other is Like Fulfilling **the Whole Law** ...  
Cp. Matthew 22:40; Romans 13:8-10
- IV. Faith Expresses itself **through Love** ...  
Cp. Galatians 5:6; James 2:17; 1 John 3:14
- V. Loving Each Other is the **T-Shirt** of Christianity ...  
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- VI. The Goal of our Instruction **is Love** ...  
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- VIII. The Absence of Love is not a **Pretty Sight**  
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### Some Reflection ...

- I. Where Differences Exist, there also exist **Great Opportunities** for Genuine Expressions of Love
- II. **Love covers** a Lot of Mistakes, Blunders, & Failures
- III. I long to Personally Grow in Love, **how about You?**

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