

God's love displayed in and through our lives.

- Eph 2;1-10. We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works.
- What is our motivation in doing all we can for God?
- Duty? Obedience? Trying to earn his love, his acceptance? The praise of others? Keeping up appearances? Worship? From a heart of Love?

1Cor 13:1-3. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I have to the poor, and surrender my body to the flames but have not love I gain nothing.

- Good works by a Christian, without love as the motivation, is worth nothing to **God**

John 13:34,35. A new commandment I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this will all men know that you are my disciple, if you love one another.

- How do we do that? How do I love **everybody**?
- **Impossible!!**

Galations 5:22,26. But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law.

No 1. is LOVE. No coincidence that love is at the top of the list.

- V 16. Live by the Spirit. V22 Live by the Spirit. Keep in step with the Spirit.

True love is one of the fruits of the Spirit!!!. Comes from God himself.

* We have to be willing to enter into a process where God can transform us into the image of His Son, Jesus Christ.

* It's not possible to love God, ourselves, and others with the passion, degree and intensity that God desires from us without the very love of God himself flowing into us.

* Once God's love begins to mesh and flow into what limited love we already have in our personality- then we will be able to begin to love people in the way God intended for us all to.

- **Love is the greatest of all Virtues**
- Paul says that you can have the greatest gift of tongues, the greatest gift of prophecy, the greatest understanding of all the mysteries and knowledge of God, have the highest levels of faith in God, and do some of the greatest works for God.

Nothing will touch other people more deeply than having the love of God shining through you and your life.

1 John 4:18. There is no fear in love; perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

1 Cor 13: 4-8. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself; is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil, does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in truth, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

NOTE--- God's love i.e. **True love**, is very different to what current day thinking makes of love. Much of current thinking is if you don't agree with me, you can't possibly love me. Much of the current thinking of love is conditional. Much is purely lust.

God's love is pure, wholesome and right, he cannot ignore or approve of sin. God is righteous, holy and just, and He has not changed, nor has his guidebook book for his creation been altered by Him.

Who should we love?

- God
- Ourselves
- Family
- Others
- Our enemies

Loving God.

Matthew 22:36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?”

Jesus said to Him, “you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind

“This is the first and greatest commandment.”

Jesus is placing extreme importance on this one commandment.

Then in Jer 21: 13. God says --- And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart.

Duet 4:29 And you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

These verses are talking about pressing in and seeking after Him with all our mind, heart, emotions, with intensity.

Many Christians say they love God, but they really do not prove it to Him by pressing in and seeking after Him in their daily walk with Him. If you are really in love with God, then you will have a strong natural desire to want to seek after Him and include him in every part of your life.

God's love for us is way beyond our understanding.

“Maximum intensity”

He would like us to return that love back to him with some level of intensity from our mind and our heart.

- The Holy Spirit can and will help us, as He transmits God's divine love into our personality, so that we can start to love God in the way, and with the intensity He would really like.

1 Kings 14:8 You have not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments and followed me with all his heart, to do what was right in my eyes.

If you truly want to be closer to God, to know him in a more intimate, personal way then spend regular quality time seeking after him, his ways, his knowledge and his direct involvement in your life.

God will become your best friend, your one and only true loving Father.

In His word the bible, Jesus is referred to as the **bridegroom** and we as the **Bride**.

This analogy that God gives us, is showing us the kind of intense and passionate love that he wants all of us to have in our own personal relationship with him.