



I. What Is Love?

II. The Preeminence of Love

Matthew 22:37-39

III. The Way Of Love

1st Corinthians 13:4-7

v. 4-6

Love's Attitude & Actions

v. 7

Love's Commitment

IV. Growing in Love

Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

Broadly speaking, there are two sources of love, human and divine. Human love is anchored in the physical and temporal condition of the individual. Much of it is driven by desire and is sustained because of personal gain received by the giver. Human love tends to be selfish, even when it is genuine. The divine love which emanates from God is not subject to the shortfalls and inconsistencies of human love. Human love has limitations. God's love does not.

As a fruit of the Holy Spirit, God's love is able to work in and through the life of a born-again believer. The result is a capacity for selflessness, service and sacrifice that far exceeds human ability. When you invest our whole being (mind, body, spirit) in the act of love, you become more like your Savior and are stretched to achieve your true potential. If you are a Christian, God wants you to love with all that you are. Doing so will require sacrifice and persistence, but you will not be doing it alone nor will it be in your own power.

Have you learned to let God love through you? Is the restraint and sacrifice that characterize divine love present in your life? Are you able to identify areas in your life in which there is a greater need for the love of God to work through you? Are you willing to let the Holy Spirit change your attitude and direct your actions so that you may live and love more like Jesus?

Prayerfully consider the ways in which God's love is manifested in your life. Give thanks for the love God brings your way and rejoice in the privilege of being a recipient of His love. Thoughtfully consider ways in which you may be more consistent and sincere in your expression of love toward others. Ask God for the ability to let love rule in your mind, body and spirit.