

Love Is...

Sunday, November 7, 2021

John 13:34-38

34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

36 Simon Peter asked him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.”

37 Peter asked, “Lord, why can’t I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.”

38 Then Jesus answered, “Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!

Love is a COMMANDMENT

Love is so much more than what we FEEL

Love isn’t given based on what they have DONE but what He DID

Romans 5:8

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Peter 4:8

⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Love doesn't DISCRIMINATE

Matthew 5:43-48

43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ **44** But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good,

and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. **46** If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? **47** And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? **48** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Love is not always RECIPROCATED

Luke 6:27-36

²⁷ “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Love requires SACRIFICE

John 15:13

¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

Love has been DEMONSTRATED for us

1 John 3:11-18

¹¹ For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹² Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his

brother's were righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters,^[a] if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵ Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

Love KEEPS a clean slate

Wife Banishes Husband to Couch, Finds Him Dead the Following Morning

By [HUNTER MILLER](#) - August 31, 2017 04:29 pm EDT

After getting into a heated argument about her husband's 16-hour shift work schedule, mother-of-three Ashley Murrell banished her husband Mikey to sleep on the couch the night of May 16. The following morning, Murrell found him [dead](#).

The 33-year-old woman later found out that her late spouse, who worked as a carpet cleaner, was working longer hours than normal in order to take his wife to Prague for their anniversary. However, that trip would never happen as Mikey [died in his sleep](#) the night that Ashley made him sleep on the sofa.

Mrs. Murrell, who lives in England, said of her late husband: "Mikey was so caring, if he walked into a room and saw someone unhappy he would be the first person there trying to cheer them up. He absolutely loved his family. He wanted his kids to have all the things in life that he didn't and he worked so hard to make that happen."

She continued by saying: "He would work 16-hour shifts, seven days a week just so he could save up enough to take us all to Disney every year. He was so worn out but he would do anything just to see us smile. But the hours he was working were just getting too much. He was so exhausted all the time and he was running himself into the ground and his health was going downhill fast."

Murrell also opened up about the last moments she spent with her late husband.

"When he came home that night he was a mess, I have never seen him so exhausted," she said while talking with [Sun Online](#). "I couldn't stand seeing him like that and I got angry. I was sick of it. I had a go at him and told him to sleep on the sofa which was stupid because I really just wanted him around more."

The following morning, Ashley was immediately aware that "something was wrong."

"When I came out of the bedroom and saw him the next morning I knew something was wrong straight away," she said. "He was lying exactly where I left him"

Because their final night was spent in anger, Ashley says the tragic incident has changed her "perspective on life."

"I felt so guilty. I was so angry with myself for making him sleep on the sofa. I still find it so hard to think that my last words to him were out of anger. When I found out he'd been saving to take us on an anniversary holiday it was awful - heartbreaking doesn't begin to cover it. Losing Mikey has changed my entire perspective on life. Life is too short to go to bed angry and not to spend every moment you can with your family."

Love has a TIME LIMIT

Love what you have while you have it, because soon it will be gone

Radcliff First Assembly of God... the worst drunken driving crash in U.S. history when 27 people were killed when a drunken driver hit the church bus during a youth outing May 14, 1988.

Love TESTIFIES of our relationship with Jesus

CONCLUSION

A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON 1 CORINTHIANS 13

Love is challenging, love is difficult. It does not come easy, it does not guarantee a return, it is not cheap. It does not make sense from a human perspective. Love always takes time and can leave us feeling frustrated and annoyed. Love is not possible without the presence of Jesus in our lives.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** 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 do not have love, I am nothing. **3** If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

1 John 4:7-12

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.