



CHURCH@HOME

The Heart and the Seed (3)

John 13:34, 35 (KJV)

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another...”

1. A Command to Love... (John 15:12-13, 17 KJV)

- b. Love is God’s command to us...
- c. Love is the **Identity** of the church...
- d. Love is a prerequisite for seed to produce a harvest in your life...
- e. When you love you are walking in the nature of God...(1 John 4:7-11 KJV)
- f. Most people think about getting love rather than giving love...
- g. Every command in the bible concerning love is about giving it, not getting it...

2. The God Kind of Love...

- a. We are to love one another the same way that God loves us...
- b. The greatest evidence of God’s love for you is His goodness toward you...
- c. **The Spirit of Love VS. The Rule of Love...**
 - Under the rule of love a person analyzes and asks questions before they show love and their love is legalistic and circumstantial...
 - Under the spirit of love a person loves first, as a default, and then they ask the Holy Spirit to show them how to best implement the love that they had already initiated...
- d. The spirit of love is a heart that seeks to always do good to others...
- a. **Love = Do Good** [Doing good is the standard of God’s love]...

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3. The Evidence Of Love...(Matthew 5:42-48 KJV)

LOVE is:

- a. To do good [a heart that seeks the best and highest good for others]...
- b. Free of cynicism [a heart that is never motivated by self-interest]...(Luke 10:25-29 KJV)
- c. Free of sarcasm [a heart that never scornfully mocks]
- d. Never passive [a heart that does not stand by while evil prevails]...(Luke 10:30-37 KJV)
- e. Never a victim [a heart that never demands to be loved nor does it feel like love is owed to it]...
- f. A pursuit [a heart that is always actively looking to help someone]...(1 Cor. 13:13-14:1 NLT)
- g. God loves us unconditionally [we are to love without conditions]...

Suggestions for Open Discussion

1. *Share briefly one or two ways God has practically demonstrated His love in your life.*
2. *In your opinion is it possible for the Holy Spirit to stop you from giving material help to someone who is obviously needy and still claim to love them? Explain/ support your opinion scripturally.*
3. *Explain how love is a pursuit. Cite practical life examples of how this happens in a believer's life.*