Pastor Andrew White 18/08/2019

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Study notes and devotional scriptures



HOPE + HELP + HEALING VICTORY GOSPEL CHURCH These Three Remain

Love, week 1

God Is Love

1 Corinthians 13:<u>13</u> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Before Time His Is Love,
During Time He Is Love and
after Time He forever Is love

What Is Love?

Three main Greek words for love

- Eros Romantic love
- Philia Friendship love
- Agape Devine love (Unconditional love)

One God One Church One Family

Love Is Strong

(a) Love makes strong decisions

Adam and Eve had authority over the whole Earth. They were supposed to expand Eden to extend over the whole of the Earth.

They listened to the devil instead of God.

God wanted them to be redeemed. They did not repent they made excuses. They would have lived forever outside of God's Love if they had stayed in the Garden.

Genesis 3:21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. 22And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." 23So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. 24After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side ^g of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

The hardest thing about parenting is knowing how to make strong decisions.

We should not try to win approval

We do what is right not just what feels good

Deuteronomy 32:3 I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! <u>4</u>He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

- 4 He has never got it wrong
- **His love brings us to a better place.**
- **4** Love brings out the best in you.
- **4** We love our children like God loves us.

Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. 9"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

John 21:15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." <u>16</u>Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." <u>17</u>The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Do you love me more than these?

Do you Agape me?

Simon Peter had denied Jesus three times just a few days before. Now Jesus says do you Agape me?

Jesus gives Simon Peter the opportunity to put things right.

Jesus had renamed him Peter but now refers to his old name.

Simon = A read

Peter = A rock

Jesus is saying "Rock you are acting like a reed. Be who you really are"

Love tells you who you are

Love challenges you

Love calls you what God calls you

Devotional Scriptures

Day 1 Love brings Favour

Proverbs 3:3-4 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favour and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Let Love

There is a choice to be made. If you determine in your heart to stay in the place of love then you by God's grace you will be able to love even in the difficult times.

This kind of love is God's unconditional love. When people witness this kind of love they are drawn towards you and give you favour.

We love without seeking return or reward but it brings a return, it brings a reward both now and in eternity.

Day 2 Love stands strong

Ephesians 3: <u>16</u> I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <u>17</u>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <u>18</u>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

Rooted and Established

Just like a tree, the roots of our life are important. The roots of a tree bring nourishment to the tree and also help to hold the tree in place when a storm comes.

If we do not have the roots of our soul in God's love, we will not grow and we will struggle to stay balanced when life's storms come.

Make the love of God your priority. It will bring growth and stability to you and your family.

Day 3 Love has no fear

<u>1 John 4:18</u> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

If anyone claims to love you yet uses intimidation or manipulation to control you then they do not understand what true love is.

Intimidation and controle are fear based. They force you to behave a certain way by their behaviour towards you. Things like shouting, screaming, bad language, anger, aggression, verbal abuse, violence, moodiness and even the quiet treatment are all fear based behaviours. This is not love.

God does not treat us that way. He communicates with grace and mercy. He says tough things in the most beautiful sensitive way.

Ephesians 4:15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Day 4 Love is convinced

Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

To truly be convinced you need to enter into the realm of revelation. That's God knowledge, His download into your life that you cannot be separated from His love.

This will give you such peace and security. Even when things are going really bad, God has not forgotten you, forsaken you or abandoned you. So if He is still near then your answer, your deliverance and your miracle is still here.

So we can call out like the Psalmist and say-

Psalm 116:1-2 I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.

Day 5 Value His Love

Psalm 63:3-4 Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

We need to understand just how amazing it is to be loved by God. We need to value His love. We need to appreciate His love. We need to praise Him because of His love towards us.

When you realise a things value you treasure it and prtect it.

<u>1 John 4:9</u> 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.

Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

1 John 3:1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

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