

TRUE LOVE

Pastor George Dupree – May 22, 2011

True Love is loving others as Christ loved me

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

How Does He Love Us?

† Completely – Unconditionally – Unendingly

We love God by _____

† 1 John 4:20 (CEV) But if we say we love God and don't love each other, we are liars. We cannot see God. So how can we love God, if we don't love the people we can see?

The Great Commandment

† Matthew 22:37-40 "...Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'"

My love for God _____ when I love others

If all I do is go to church, worship, pray, read the word etc. and I don't love others Paul says that I am a clanging cymbal!

Love _____

A woman had a story to tell that spanned 12 years. Jesus had other things to do but He listened to her story.

† Mark 5:33 (CEV) The woman knew what had happened to her. She came shaking with fear and knelt down in front of Jesus. Then she told him the whole story.

Love Treats People With _____

† 1 Peter 2:17 (Message) Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God.

† John 8:3 (CEV) The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law of Moses brought in a woman who had been caught in bed with a man who wasn't her husband. They made her stand in the middle of the crowd. 4 Then they said, "Teacher, this woman was caught sleeping with a man who isn't her husband. 5 The Law of Moses teaches that a woman like this should be stoned to death! What do you say?" 6 They asked Jesus this question, because they wanted to test him and bring some charge against him. But Jesus simply bent over and started writing on the ground with his finger. 7 They kept on asking Jesus about the woman. Finally, he stood up and said, "If any of you have never sinned, then go ahead and throw the first stone at her!" 8 Once again he bent over and began writing on the ground. 9 The people left one by one, beginning with the oldest. Finally, Jesus and the woman were there alone. 10 Jesus stood up and asked her, "Where is everyone? Isn't there anyone left to accuse you?" 11 "No sir," the woman answered. Then Jesus told her, "I am not going to accuse you either. You may go now, but don't sin anymore."

There is a difference between **acceptance** and **approval** The woman caught in adultery was treated with dignity, Jesus didn't approve of her behavior, but He showed her love. He defended her dignity.

Love _____

† 1 Corinthians 13:7 (Living Bible) If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.

In the end He told her to sin no more. His mission was not to make her feel guilty; His mission was to let her know that even though God did not approve of her behavior He did accept her. And that's what we need to do with others. We have to accept them even when we don't approve of their behavior.

I Choose _____

† Nothing Justifies _____

† Nothing Justifies _____