

The Power of Love
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Jerry French

The **GOAL** of our instruction is love. The **WHY** behind your life is as high as you'll fly. You can't rise above your motive.

if I'm pure, there's no limit, because the pure in heart will see God.

Anything concerning myself, I'm gonna run into trouble. But if I am living for the glory of God and for your sakes, this is what I am to do.

We need to guard our hearts. Out of the heart flows the issues of life.

1 Corinthians 12:31. Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way."

read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Everything flows out of love. Love is God and God is love. Love is the most powerful thing on the planet.

God made us in His image, so that means we're called to be love because God is love.

Don't say "I need a fresh word", - no, become the word you heard. The word is alive and active.

We're created for God's image. When you get born again, the reason you get born again is to "get born again"! That means transformation. You are not saved to go to heaven, you are saved for heaven to come back inside of you. If your motive is to go to heaven, then it's going to be like hell on earth until that day.

If you live like the Kingdom of heaven is to come back inside you, then you'll live like a son/daughter of God.

I'm a Christian for how He can make me more like Him, because He made me in His image. If I live anything else, I'm living outside my value.

I want God to transform me and get me to think differently, live differently, and get me motivated differently.

I need to die to myself so I can truly pick up my cross and taxi through every situation, every injustice, every unfairness and not be changed except by love. and then ultimately follow Jesus.

We don't incorporate Him into our lives, He **BECOMES** our life.

The Christian life is being restored back to its original value - it's the redemption - like you and me never ate the tree.

We have sold the Gospel as if its for **OUR** sake, when we're created for **HIS** namesake.

To know the love of Christ is to know the fullness of God.

"If any man comes to Me, let him first deny himself. Why? Because you were never created to live for self. You were created for the image of God, and you cannot come to Him for you---, you come to Him to fulfill what He created you for, so that you can step into oneness with the Father and manifest the Kingdom of God through your life because grace says you can.

We've made it all about us. You'll find that God will give you all these things, but we need to get our minds off us and get it on Him so we can think for others.

Christ came and proved that He loves you. We don't need to measure His love for us by all the blessings He gives. The greatest day of your life is when you break free from yourself and become love.

When man ate of the tree what died? The image of God. Man became god unto himself. Man became self-centered and self sufficient.

Our relationships are so needs driven; it proves we don't know the love of Christ and we're not filled with the fullness of God. If we have the fullness of God, then it's not needs driven, we have something to **give**, not something to **need**.

Why do I show mercy? So I can get mercy? No, I show mercy because I **received** mercy.

We are predestined to be transformed in the image of His Son.

God gave us everything necessary to be like Him. If we're not careful, we turn the Gospel into God do this, God give me favors, God meet my needs.

Don't gather together for what God can **DO** for you, gather together for how He can transform us to be more like Him, because in doing that we will find our needs are so met.

If we'll seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, then things come into line.

"Being godly is what moves my life" Paul said. He knew what it was like to be without and have plenty.

We compare ourselves among ourselves. We put faults on each other for not receiving. We compete and become frustrated and not becoming love.

We have to know why we are Christians. There's too much disappointment and discouragement. We're sitting ducks for the enemy. He says we don't really love God, he says we're just using Him for what He can **DO** for us. Is that true in your life?

We overcome by the blood, the word of our testimony, **AND** by **LOVING NOT MY OWN LIFE UNTO DEATH**. That 3rd one is the most powerful. The first 2 don't seem to work when there's self-centeredness and self centered motives because when we ask amiss, we don't receive.

You can plead the blood and the word till you're blue in your face, but if you have love for your own life, you'll see very little movement of the Spirit.

Who cares who did me wrong now that God did me so right?!!! Why would I let the world etch me and mold me into its image when I'm a masterpiece in the hand of the Master Potter?

When Adam ate the tree, he got sin conscious and selfish. God still loved him, but he was cut off from the image of God and being able to see himself as value in God until Jesus came and revealed the truth.

The first sin: self justification, self preservation, denial, blame shifting.

Man is in desperate need of love. He lost his identity and lost his love of the Father and so he was driven to find love in all the wrong places.

So man is in a desperate place; his need **FOR** love, yet he was created **TO** love. Why do we let the actions and words of man move us when God has already spoken and acted?

We need to deny ourselves, pick up our cross and follow Him.

If I'm free from me, then I'm totally released to finally love you.

We still as Christians obtain rights, but now we need to give them up because "rights" came through the fall. Because now you obtain 1 right; His image.

When we are born again, everything else dies. Jesus set the example for us to become what He is. He doesn't want just to lavish us in love, He wants to transform you **IN** love.

Don't let sin **against** you produce sin **in** you, when love covers a multitude of sin.

We have one right; to be like Him.

Mercy triumphs over judgement. Goodness leads me to change.

Being right doesn't make it right. Being righteous will redeem the world.

We fix on what's wrong and give ourselves permission to be right and miss the heart of God completely. If He judged us that way we're finished.

It's not every man for himself, it's every man for the image of God, now that Christ has come.

He said "Follow Me". He modeled the life for us to follow.

When you forgive, you render the injustice of the act against you powerless, as if it never happened. It's so important to do everything we do in the place of love. Everything flows through love.

If you're living for you, you are dead while you are walking. If you are living in His image, you've been raised from the dead.

1 Corinthians is on love.

Jesus shedding His blood proved that we're amazing. I am the home of the living God!

We should be doing things out of love, not receive applause or thank yous or acknowledgement.

If we give to the poor without love, the poor get blessed but I get nothing because I'm giving for some other reason.

Pursue love, desire the gifts, but the more excellent way is to pursue love.

You **become** love, you're not trying to **do** it.

Pray:

God, your heart is in me. I'm a Christian for your names's sake. Lord, there's nothing selfish in me that I desire. I give up my rights. No man can mold me anymore! You're the one that fashions my life.

God I'm alive for your image and your glory. When I look through these eyes, I see what you see. You can entrust me with truth, you can entrust me with gifts, you can flow through me like you flow through your Son because I am one!!