

UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE! HANDOUT #1

We are commanded to know and believe the love of God for us.

1. **Before Jesus went to the cross, He prayed that everyone would know the love of the Father like He did** (John 17:20-23).
 - A. the Father loves him just like the Father loves Jesus (verse 23).
 - B. We are not old sinners saved by grace. No! We are loved by God!
 - C. Jesus, our Savior said that, and He was praying when He said that.
 - D. Are you determined to agree with Jesus, that the Father loves him just like He loves Jesus.
 - E. Say, "Thank You, Father, that You love me just as much as You love Jesus."
 - F. You should make the same statement about yourself. God loves _____ (insert your name).
 - G. Say it because Jesus prayed it. Choose to say it and believe it.
 - H. Believe it in your heart, say it with your mouth, and know that God loves you (Mark 11:23-24)!
2. **Choose to believe God's WORD —that's the foundation faith rests on.**
 - A. Heard testimony from a brother of his healing by believing God's WORD.
 - B. Had every symptom of the flu. He hurt all over. He had driven his wife to the cleaners, but he waited in the car.
 - C. The LORD led him to look at his Bible that was open to 1 Peter 2:24. He put his finger on that verse and read it aloud.
 - D. He said, "LORD, I choose to believe this WORD
 - E. Within 10 minutes he felt better. He drove home, ate supper, went to bed and woke up completely well.
 - F. What happened? Brother to believe God's WORD, whether his body felt like it or not.
 - G. Speaking the symptoms is lying, because what's on your body is not the truth, it's a fact.
 - H. The truth is that by Jesus' stripes you were healed, and with His stripes you are healed (1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:5).
 - I. If you choose to believe the truth, the truth will change the fact.
 - J. This truth becomes even more powerful the more you believe Love.
 - K. It is a lie to believe that God wants you to be sick. Can you believe that Love wants you to stay sick for awhile? No!
 - L. It's also a lie to believe that God wants you broke and struggling financially? Can you believe Love wants you to be broke and struggling financially? No
 - M. Renew your mind to the truth that God is Love, and Love is God (Romans 12:2; 1 John 4:8).
3. **John, called the Apostle of Love, knew and believed the love Jesus had for him.**
 - A. John was the only disciple who did not run when Jesus was arrested,

crucified and buried. John lived longer than any other disciple. The Romans tried to kill him. They boiled him in oil, and he was not harmed.

B. John had faith that Jesus loved him (John 13:23).

C. John wrote that we have known and believed the love of God (1 John 4:16).

D. He was not bragging; he intimately knew God's love for him!

E. Jesus spoke to John from the cross and said, "John, take care of my mother as if she were your own" (paraphrase of John 19:25-27).

F. Remember It's important to renew your mind to the truth that God loves

G. God is Love, and Love has the legal right to heal and prosper you

H. God is Love, and we have the opportunity to know and believe His love (1 John 4:8, 16).

I. Set aside several weeks and read the book of 1 John every day. There are things in it that really don't come to the surface until you renew your mind to the fact that God is Love.

J. "God is Love"—say it slowly, and let it sink into your heart (1 John 4:8).

4. **Learn to trust God's love.**

A. There is no fear in love. God is Love, and there's no fear in Him. And, God is in us (1 John 4:16-18)!

B. Perfect love casts out fear.

C. Stir up the gift of God, which is love. Love flushes fear out (2 Timothy 1:6-7).

D. The more you feed love, the more it will grow until there's no room left for fear.

E. People manage fear. A professional bull rider is not afraid of a bull—he has learned to manage the fear. However, he may be worried and fearful about other things, like his finances.

F. If you are not born again, your spirit is producing fear.

G. When you are born again, you are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

H. The fountain inside you is not flowing with fear, but you have a fountain of the fruit of the spirit, a fountain of faith (Galatians 5:22-23).

i. If you continue to feed on fear, it will get in your spirit.

J. If you violate the law of love, and step off the love line, fear is there immediately.

K. Determine to walk in the commandment of love, and put it first place, because you want to obey God's WORD.

L. You are a soldier in the army of God, so you must obey the Commander in Chief (2 Timothy 2:3-4).

M. Know, believe and trust that God loves you, and that He is doing everything to keep you out of trouble.

5. **Start loving in obedience to God's WORD.**

A. Our love is made perfect, because it's God's love within us, and He is perfect. There is no fear in God/Love (1 John 4:17-18).

B. Make God's love within you, or perfected love, top priority in your life, and

fear will be cast out!

C. If you want to increase your faith, plant it, and it will grow (Luke 17:5).

D. We are born of Love, and when we believe God's love, it begins to grow and You are exercising faith in God's love.

E. You now have renewed your mind. You have switched the place of the generic name God

f. with the personal name Love. Have faith in God who is Love (Mark 11:22).

G. If there is something you don't desire, cast it into the sea. If it's something you do desire, believe you receive it, and you will have it (verses 23-24).

H. When you pray, love and faith need to move freely, so be sure you have forgiven everyone (Mark 11:25).

I. The faith you receive from Love Himself, will not work when you are in unforgiveness.

J. Forgive yourself and others, and love will work!

K. Forgiveness is not a feeling-based decision; it's an obedience-based decision.

L. God will not tell you to do something you can't do. He will help you do it.

M. Begin your day with prayer and forgiveness. Then, you can hear God

N. The application of the faith principle is to pray and ask, and believe without doubting, and you will have what you ask for. Forgive, so that your prayers will be answered (verses 24-25).

O. Forgiving is easy. It is not a matter of feelings. It is a decision.

P. Stand before God and declare you have forgiven. If your flesh still wants to be angry, remember, it does not have a mind of its own, it is trainable.

Q. Act on your decision to forgive, not your unrenewed feelings.

R. It is not your business to control how someone else feels. It's your business to love others.

S. Until you confess your sin, it's still working in your life. Confess it by faith. You haven't done anything until you receive the forgiveness and the cleansing of it (1 John 1:7-9).

T. You are cleansed when you stand praying.

U. Sin is sin. Admit your sin, confess it and quickly spew it out of your system. Then, thank God for His mercy!

V. It is time for the army of God to arise and attack the enemy with a vengeance and love one another with an intensity we have never had before.

W. The power ladders are up, ready for someone to come to God's level and see things from God's vantage point of power and love.

6. **Love doesn't leave you in a bad situation. Love finds a way to help you.**

A. Religion says God does not want you to have anything good.

B. Brainwashed Christians are all messed up. They treat God like He doesn't love anyone.

C. One of the reasons it is impossible to please God without faith (Hebrews

11:6) is that without faith, He can't connect to you.

D. Without faith, you cannot access grace. Faith and grace are promised to Abraham's descendants through faith (Romans 4:16).

E. God wants everyone to enjoy His grace.

F. To say that "grace is undeserved favor" is good, yet...God said grace is "God's overwhelming desire to treat you as if sin had never happened."

G. Jesus shed His blood, so we can live our lives in grace, as if sin never happened.

H. There is no condemnation in love or in grace (Romans 8:1).

I. When you are cleansed from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:7-9), what's left? Righteousness.

J. Acknowledge your sin, repent, and receive forgiveness and grace.

K. Sinning and confessing are better than sinning and not confessing. No born-again child of God is trying to get away with sinning.

L. The power and authority of sin has already been legally broken.

M. It is one thing to mentally accept that God loves you. It's another to trust God's love.

N. Many people do not believe God loves them. Even Christians often do not really believe. Instead of belief, they have mental assent.

O. Ask yourself: How much faith are you putting in God's love for you? Have faith in God who is Love (Mark 11:22).

P. Jesus' disciples had trouble believing He loved them (Mark 4:38).

Q. The storm caused the boat to begin filling with water.

R. What did the disciples say? "Don't You care that we're dying?" How dare they say that to Jesus? They did not know who Jesus was.

S. This is no difference in saying why is God letting the young kids die?

T. We know who Jesus is, yet we don't fully trust His love for us.

U. God's not going to retaliate against you for your unbelief. But, the devil will hear you and use that open door of unbelief to tear up your life.

V. When you do not feel God's love, that's when you should announce your faith, and rebuke the devil and his work against you.

W. Tell your body to get in line with God's WORD. "I feel good, and I feel fine. Body, get in line.

7. **We have known and believed God's love.**

A. God instructed us to harken diligently to His voice. The Bible is the voice of God to you.

B. Deuteronomy 28 contains THE BLESSING of Abraham that is available to those who listen to and obey God's commands (verses 1-14).

C. Those who refuse to listen to and obey God's commands are subject to the curse of the Law (verses 15-68).

D. We are to be gent to harken to the commandment to love.

E. In the New Testament, we are instructed to obey God's commands, including the commandment to love (Romans 13:9).

F. Love is the fulfilling of the Law.

- G.** If you do not obey God's commands, you will walk into the curse. God does not put the curse on you. It will come on you through disobedience.
- H.** Believers are redeemed from the curse of the Law (Galatians 3:13), but it is still out there available for activation.
- I.** Jesus told us to walk in the straight and narrow way; that is the path of love (Matthew 7:13-14).
- J.** The law of Jesus is to love one another as He loves us (John 13:34).
- K.** We can have confidence in God's love.
- L.** Ask God anything according to His will and His WORD, and you will have it.
- M** God's WORD is His will. He will not promise you anything that is against His will (1 John 5:14-15).
- N.** If you are born again of God, who is Love, you won't sin. You're walking in the love way (1 John 3:9).
- O.** As a born-again child of God, who is Love, you keep yourself in the love way, and the devil cannot touch you. If you step out of line be quick to repent and quick to forgive.
- P.** Continue to love and forgive, and do not let anything push you out of love. When we start speaking against God's way of love, we open ourselves to the curse