

UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE! HANDOUT #3

God is Love. As you love God and others, the love of God is perfected in you. The God kind of love is different than the world's love.

1. **God loves you with agape, covenant love.**
 - a. God is Love. As you love God and others, the love of God is perfected in you.
 - B. God is Love. Believe in the love of God, and you will believe in God (1 John 4:8).
 - C. You must love The LORD your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love others, too (*Matthew 22:37-39*).
 - D. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and His love is perfected in us.
 - E. As you begin to love, you are renewing your mind to the love of God.
 - F. Exchange the word God with the word Love as you read (1 John 4:16.)
 - g. We cannot mentally grasp that God is Love, so we must use faith in His love.
2. **The God kind of love is different than the world's love.**
 - A. Do not love the things of the world (1 John 2:15).
 - B. Do not love "things." It is good to have things but save your love for God and other people.
 - C. Love involves the compassion of God. Jesus saw people needing a shepherd. He was fully developed in compassion (*Matthew 9:35-36*).
 - D. Your compassion requires that you understand the difference between liking something and loving people.
 - E. The love of money is the beginning, or root, of all kinds of evil (1 Timothy 6:10).
 - F. Paul told those who were wealthy not to be high-minded. G. Money does not make you better than anyone else. Having money allows you to distribute, to give.
 - H. Your giving will increase your substance (1 Timothy 6:17).
 - i. God's love gives you all things to enjoy, and those things meet your needs and God gives you all sufficiency for all things. He wants you to look to Him as your only Source (2 Corinthians 9:8).
3. **Walking in God's love brings THE BLESSING into your life.**
 - a. Those who are born again can overcome the world (1 John 5:4).
 - B. The children of Israel did not believe God loved them. Even though they were covenant people, they did not trust the covenant or God
 - c.1.** *So, all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. 2 And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! 3 Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"* (Numbers 14:1-3).

- d. We must turn our thinking to believe God's WORD above all else, and we will receive THE BLESSING.
 - e. Because God loves you, He wants to meet your needs and give you the desires of your heart.
 - F. God will meet your needs and your wants. If you seek The LORD, you will not lack any good thing (Psalm 34:7-10).
 - G. Jesus is the great Shepherd, and when we depend on Him, we will not want (Psalm 23:1).
 - H. Paul wrote Timothy to tell those who are rich not to be high-minded but be ready to distribute because God gives us richly things to enjoy (1 Timothy 6:17).
 - i. God will do good things for anyone who will believe (Psalm 118).
4. **You must learn to trust God, and the power of His love.**
- A. We must take steps to believe God loves us:
 1. Trust God.
 2. Trust God's WORD.
 3. Trust God's Name and the integrity of His character.
 4. Trust Jesus' blood that ratified God's covenant.
 5. Trust God's love and mercy.
 - B. God made a way for you to be forgiven from sin, so He could bless you.
 - C. God forgave your sin for His sake and yours (Isaiah 43:25).
 - D. He did not want to remember the sins of His children.
 - e. If God remembered your sin, He could not bless you.
 - f. It takes faith to please God, and faith works by love (Galatians 5:6).
 - G. We forgive by faith, so it is given through the gift of grace
5. **God is one hundred percent on our side, and He loves us deeply. This gives us victory.**
- A. *What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?... Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:31, 32, 35- 39).*
 - b. There should be no question in our minds: God is for us. He is on our side.
 - c. In the Old Testament, there were times when God was against His people; however, that was under the Law of Moses. What Jesus did on the cross put God on our side forever.
 - d. God will turn around whatever the devil throws in our path. God turns whatever seems like a stumbling block into a steppingstone.

E. We will encounter troubles, but God's love helps us triumph over them; they will not triumph over us.

f. Everything the devil does is designed to destroy our belief that God loves us.

G. Nothing in this world is strong enough to stop God's love from working for us. We must stand firm in our faith in this truth.

h. *And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of... And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son (Genesis 22:2, 12, 13).*

i. Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only beloved son was a shadow of what was to come, when God did sacrifice His only begotten Son.

J. God knew that Abraham loved Him because he did not withhold his only son. We know that God loves us because He did not withhold His Son.

6. **We are God's beloved!**

A. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us (Ephesians 3:14-20).

b. We are God's beloved; His love for us is too deep, wide, and all-encompassing for us to fathom.

C. Just as a car needs gas to run, we need God's love to operate. It makes us whole in spirit, soul, and body.

d. God's love is powerful. There is absolutely nothing strong enough to separate us from it.

E. And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us (Romans 5:5).

F. The first thing the Holy Spirit does after we get born again is to pour God's love into our hearts. It is no accident that the Holy Spirit is mentioned in relation to God's love.

G. The love of God is the power of God. Once we understand His love, we will understand His power.

7. **There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment.**
- A.** He that feareth is not made perfect in love (1 John 4:18).
 - B.** God's love removes any and all fear we could ever have. Faith in His love causes us to win over every potentially threatening circumstance or frightening possibility.
 - C.** Like David, we must have faith in God's love and goodness.
 - D.** I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living (Psalm 27:13).
 - E.** In the Old Testament, after the children of Israel were victorious in battle against Jehoshaphat, they praised God for His love He for them and the victory He gave them (2 Chronicles 20:1-25).
 - F.** We must praise Him the same way. If we stop believing in God's love for us, we open ourselves up to fear in many forms.
 - G.** When David went up against Goliath, all of Israel feared Goliath. However, David was not afraid and came out the victor (1 Samuel 17:1-51) because he was God's beloved.
 - H.** The knowledge that God loves us the same way empowers us to slay the Goliaths in our lives.
 - i.** Love is not a feeling; it is a choice. We love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19).
 - J.** We must focus on this love The love of God, through Jesus, has conquered all fear and gives us hope.
 - K.** At the cross, Jesus paid for our griefs and sorrows (Isaiah 53:4).
 - L.** Do not be sorrowful. You have hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13).
 - K.** In the middle of trouble, stay joyful (James 1:2).
 - M.** The Lover of your soul, Jesus, defeated death for you. You have already died. You are now seated in heavenly places with Him.
 - n.** If you lack wisdom about the temptation or trial, ask God and He will give you wisdom. Find and read wisdom scriptures.
 - O.** You can be filled with all knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (Colossians 1:9).
 - P.** Before you accepted Jesus as LORD, your spirit was not a fountain of faith, it was a fountain of fear of death.
 - Q.** Now that you are born again, the fountain within you is producing the fruit of the spirit.
 - r.** Perfected love casts all fear out of your spirit (2 Timothy 1:7).
8. **It's our job to resist anything that Jesus bore on the cross for us** (1 John 4:17).
- a.** Jesus endured death for every man, destroyed him who had the power of death, and delivered us from fear.
 - b.** Say: "Jesus bore my sin, so I resist it. Jesus bore my sickness, so I resist it. Jesus bore my pain, so I resist it. Jesus bore my fear, so I resist it!"
 - c.** Your responsibility is to fear not! Believe only! (Luke 8:50).

- D.** The battlefield is in the mind (2 Corinthians 10:4).
- E.** Say: "My mind is my mind. No human, no devil, no one can tell me what to think, but me. And I think whatever God thinks."
- F.** Be victorious by getting your mind wrapped up in the love of God.
- G.** When you go through a trial or hard place. Say: "My God loves me! He loves me coming into this trial, and He loves me going through it. He did not put it on me. No, no. No, no. I should not be that foolish to ever think that. But I'll tell you this: He's the One who's going to get me out of it. He's the one who will get me through it."
- H.** Trouble comes on you when you do not serve The LORD your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart because of the abundance of all things (Deuteronomy 28:47)
- I.** In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I break the power of the lie that there's anything in your life that has caused God not to love you. That's a lie from hell. You reject it right now with me, and you will walk free and be delivered of that.
- J.** God loves you! It does not matter what you did. God loves you
- k.** Get a revelation of how much God loves you. There is nothing you can do that will stop Him from loving you. His love for you is based on His character, not your actions.
- L.** God loves you, and He expects you to be like Jesus—walking in love and forgiving others.
- M.** Jesus said He could do nothing of Himself (John 5:19, 30).
- N.** Do not try to love others in your own strength—it takes faith in God.
- O.** Religion puts the effort on men. Faith puts the work on Jesus