

God's Love Language

Sunday, February 15, 2015

by C. Benjamin Dill

Good morning, Lighthouse, are you ready for the Word of God this morning?

Let me say also; good morning and welcome to "Show Your Love" Sunday. Today is a special day of candy and cards and flowers and various tokens of our love to and for each other.

This day is a long standing tradition here at Lighthouse; one that we adopted many years ago which was practiced by our Mother Church from which we came.

February and Valentine's Day being about all that mushy lovey stuff is a perfect opportunity to capitalize on something everybody is already thinking about anyway.

Love just happens to be the number one thing we Christians are commanded to practice. If you can get this Love business down; if you can get this right, everything else God wants you to do will all fall into place as a natural product of this one thing.

Love fulfils all the commandments of God.

It's what the Lord commanded Israel:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one
LORD:

5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

It's what the Lord Jesus commanded us in the New Testament as well:

Matthew 22:36-40

36 Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law?

37 Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.**

38 **This is the first and great commandment.**

39 **And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.**

40 **On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

Our number one command, our number one glorious opportunity, our number one privilege is **to love God.**

We definitely did not start out loving God. Because of our sin, we either were or still ARE at enmity with God.

When we trusted Jesus to save us we made peace with God.

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Making peace with God happens all at once with one single event called the New Birth. **Learning to love God** is something we will be doing for our entire lifetime.

If you are saved; if you are born again; if you are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, (there are lots of Biblical ways to say it) if you are now truly one of God's spiritual children; I know for a fact that your desire is to love God.

Some years ago Gary Chapman wrote a book called The Five Love Languages.

This book, written in 1995, has transformed thousands of relationships; I think it ought to be required reading for every engaged couple, everyone who ever hopes to be engaged, every married person, every parent; well, you get the point.

Dr. Chapman will educate you on what makes those you love, feel loved; and almost without exception it will not be the same things that make you feel loved.

The five emotional love languages are these:

1. Words of affirmation.
2. Quality time.
3. Gifts.
4. Acts of service.
5. Physical touch.

It becomes very easy to see how that understanding and speaking, as it were, these “languages” can bless the lives of those we love.

For our “Show Your Love” blessing to you today, Lisa and I have bought out our local Christian bookstores’ stock of this book and have enough to bless 22 families with it today.

Get yours on the way out today.

This book is going to be a great help in keeping that second great commandment, but what about the first one?

What is God’s love language?

Of these five love languages; one of them for sure is going to be your number one deal. There will likely be at least two that really mean a lot to you.

If you want to love your wife, learn her love language and how to “speak” it.

If you want to love your husband, learn his love language and how to “speak” it.

If you want to love God learn His love language and how to “speak” it.

There are three love languages (probably more, but for sure at least three) that the Word of God definitely tells us that show our love for Him.

God’s first love language is that we:

I. Keep His commandments.

1John 2:3-4

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

A. What are these commandments we are to keep?

1. Are they the 613 mosaic laws of the Old Testament?

2. Are they the basic 10 Commandments?

3. No, not any of these.

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

4. Are they the list of things people think we require for all the new Christians, that “you can’t do anymore now that you are a Christian?”
5. “OK, here are all the things you can’t do anymore, now that you are saved!”
6. Oh, there are commandments alright that we are to keep if you want to love God.

B. There are basically four New Testament commandments we are to keep:

1. Believe. **1John 3:23** And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.
2. Get Baptized. **Acts 2:41** Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.
Acts 10:48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...
3. Worship the Lord. **John 4:23-24**
23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
24 God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth; which consists specifically of singing, praying, giving, preaching and observing the Lord’s supper.

(Otherwise known as things you can't really do in a bass boat on the lake.)

4. Serve the Lord. **Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

5. **1John 5:1-3**

1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

This brings us to God's second love language is which is that we:

II. Love the brethren.

A. This actually begins automatically when we get saved.

1. **1John 5:1**

... and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

2. Then we have to work at it from then on.

B. This is one of the ways by which we know we are truly saved.

1. **1John 3:14** We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

2. Look around you; do you love all these other believers in here? We love you.

2. **1John 4:20-21**

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 **And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.**

3. The fact of the matter is that loving each other is indeed loving God!

4. Love being primarily what we do; listen to these verses: **Matthew 25:34-40**

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took *thee* in? or naked, and clothed *thee*?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

God's third love language is that we:

III. Love our Church.

*A. If you are going to speak God's love language, **you are going to have to learn to love those who Jesus loves.***

1. **Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

2. This doesn't mean that everybody Jesus loves is the Church.

3. It means that when Jesus died for your sins and then He came and found you and saved you...he had greater plans for your life than just keeping you out of hell!

4. That greater plan is clearly spelled out for us.

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 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,

21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

B. I love my Church!

1. I have and will continue to give my life for this Church.

2. Lisa and I have for about fifteen years now given our time, our energy, our money; our very heart to this Church.

3. We have suffered for this Church and we have no regrets.

3. This Church is our forever family; our friends are in this Church.

4. This Church is Christ's Body.

5. When as a real believer, you join this Church; you become one with the rest of us.

6. Loving Jesus but not loving your Church which is Christ's Body is like a wife saying to her husband; I love you, but I don't love your body.

7. That's going to get old after a while.

8. We are one body in Christ.

1Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is* Christ.

Romans 12:5 So we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

9. We are very much like when a couple get married and become one in the sight of God; so much so that after the Apostle Paul described the proper marriage he said this:

Ephesians 5:31-32

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Conclusion: Do you keep those simple four commandments this morning?

I John 5:3 ...and his commandments are not grievous.

Do you love your brothers and sisters in Christ this morning?

Do you love your Church?

If you do, then you are definitely speaking God's love language.