

So Loved Part 3

Transferable Love

Steve Berger February 7, 2016

Review from January 24 and 31, 2016: How God has loved us...

- God has loved us — Eternally, Sovereignly, Sacrificially, Practically, Lavishly...
- Blessed with every spiritual blessing, Chosen, Holy, Blameless, Adopted, Favored, Redeemed, Forgiven, Inheritance, Sealed with Holy Spirit

Has God so loved us ONLY for our benefit?

His love is meant to be a Transferable Love

*He has So Loved us, so we can then So Love others, so we have a resource and an experience to draw from beyond our own, His love is meant to be a **Transferable Love**...*

- **1 John 13:34-35**

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

*We are commanded to love others as we have been loved by Jesus, our love for one another is to be **THE defining characteristic** of being a disciple.*

- **John 15:9,12**

As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

*The Father loved Jesus, Jesus loved us, an example of Transferable Love. Abide in it, put it on, keep yourself in it — **THEN**, obey the command of loving one another.*

it's got to happen to you before it can happen through you!

- **1 John 4:7-11**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

50 years after Jesus' first statement, it is repeated again, "love one another." Love is the litmus test of being born of God and knowing God. Can't love God's way without knowing Him!

So important... God's love is an *initiating* love, to the guilty, He loved us and sent His Son... if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. When's last time you did that?

God's love is meant to be transferable to others, not hoarded on ourselves!

God has called us to a sacrificial love for others

- **1 John 3:16**

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

- **John 15:13**

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. (self-sacrifice is the high water mark of love).

*Sacrificial love isn't just from Jesus to us, it's from us to others, laying our lives down for others... **Time, Talent, Treasure...** doing is beautiful, withholding is ugly!*

**If the whole church started loving others sacrificially,
the whole world would have an unmistakable encounter
with the love of God. Let's do our part with our T, T, T**

When is the last time you loved someone sacrificially? Cost you enough to hurt?

God has called us to provide for those in need

- **1 John 3:17-18**

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

Providing for people's needs is part of the Transferable love of God! Out of God's love for us He provides, we do the same for others. "Love talk" is cheap, "Love deeds" can be costly, but so worth it!

God has called us to love to cover people's sins

- **1 Peter 4:8**

And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS."

- above all things, most importantly, have fervent, focused, fiery love.
- love covers a multitude of sins — love covers, it doesn't affirm or condone sin, it covers, it quiets, it calms

- **Proverbs 10:12**

Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins.

- **Genesis 9-20-23**

And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

- Ham stirred up strife by talking about Noah's sin to his brothers. Shem and Japheth covered Noah's sin, that's what love does, covers, quiets, doesn't condone

**When love covers sin,
there is a demonstration of the matchless love of God!**

- **1 John 4:21**

And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

- love sacrifices, provides, and covers

Discussion Questions

1. Read John 13:34-35. Why is this a NEW commandment?
2. What has to take place in our lives before we are able to transfer God's love to others?
3. What makes *self-sacrifice* the highest water mark of love?
4. 1 Peter 4:8 says that "love will cover a multitude of sins." What does this mean?
5. 1 John 4:21 is a commandment that "he who loves God MUST love his brother also." If we do not demonstrate our love for our brother, what does this say about our love for God?

House of Prayer

Click on "House of Prayer" on www.gracechapel.net to fill out a prayer request.
Please come join our monthly House of Prayer,
Tuesday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.