

bible declaration
mission 2022 your are loved

I wasnt lost on an adventure

SHOW ME THE LOVE

SHOW ME HOW YOU LOVE -
SHOW OTHERS THE LOVE-
WE ALL WANT EVERYONE TO SHOW US THE LOVE, BUT
ARE WE SHOWING THE LOVE-
DO WE SHOW THE LOVE?

OPENER

Someone wrote: If you love something, set it free. If it comes back, it was and always will be yours. If it never returns, it was never yours to begin with.

If it just sits in your living room and messes up your stuff, eats your food, uses your telephone, takes your money and never behaves as if you actually set it free in the first place -- ladies you wanted a man.

Love, love, love. This is what our world needs but the world is often mixed up when it comes to love.

Jesus said,

John 13:34-35 (NLT) 34 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

WHEN WE LOVE EACH OTHER WE SHOW THE WORLD
THAT JESUS IS REAL

1 John 4:7-8 (NLT) Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

YOU CAN'T KNOW GOD WITHOUT KNOWING LOVE

BECAUSE THAT IS WHO HE IS.

TO KNOW GOD IS TO LOVE LIKE GOD

LOVE BEGINS HERE.

BEFORE WE CAN EVER LOVE THE WORLD, WE HAVE TO
LEARN TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER LOVE BEGINS IN THE
CHURCH. LOVE BEGINS HERE

OPENER PART TWO:

HOW DO WE OBEY THIS COMMAND TO LOVE ONE
ANOTHER?

WE LOVE LIKE GOD LOVED US.

WE LOVE EACH OTHER WITH AGAPE LOVE.

Agape love is - active, not abstract or passive. It is not just spoken. It is shown. It does not simply feel patient. It is patient! It does not simply have kind feelings. It does kind things.

1 **John 3:18 (NLT)** Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

LOVE IS FULLY LOVE WHEN IT IS SHOWN.
LOVE IS FULLY LOVE WHEN IT ACTS.

REAL LOVE TAKES THE FIRST STEP THIS IS GOD'S LOVE.

REAL LOVE LOVES WHEN IT IS UNDESERVED.
BECAUSE WHILE WERE STILL SINNERS GOD LOVED US
AND SHOWED US LOVE

ILL.- When Benjamin Franklin wished to interest people of Philadelphia in the value of street lighting, he didn't try to persuade them by talking about it—instead, he hung a beautiful lantern on a long bracket before his own door. Then he kept the glass brightly polished, and carefully hung it at the approach of dusk.

People wandering about on the dark street saw Franklin's light a long way off and came under the influence of its friendly glow with grateful hearts. To each one it seemed to say; "Come along, my

friend! Here is a safe place to walk. See that cobblestone sticking out? Don't stumble over it! I shall be here to help you again tomorrow night, if you should come this way."

It wasn't long before Franklin's neighbors began placing lights in brackets before their homes and soon the entire city awoke to the value of street lighting and took up the matter with interest and enthusiasm. Example is always a strong motivation for doing the right thing in life. And the Lord gives us the best example of all.

SERMON BODY:

HOW DO WE LOVE EACH OTHER WITH THE LOVE OF GOD?

SHOW HONOR TO ONE ANOTHER

Paul wrote this instruction to the church at Rome.....

Romans 12:9-10 NLT) Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.

10 Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

Honor = hold in high regard, appreciate, to give glory.

Too often, instead of honoring each other, we are dishonoring and disgracing each other.

BECAUSE WE DON'T HONOR EACH OTHER, WE DISHONOR THE CHURCH.

WE DISGRACE IT'S REPUTATION TO THE WORLD. AND ULTIMATELY WE DISGRACE GOD.

THE LIGHT OF THE CHURCH HAS BEEN SNUFFED OUT BECAUSE OF OUR LACK OF LOVE.

1. SPEAK WELL OF OTHERS

Every word we speak is an opportunity to build others up or tear them down, to give God glory or promote our own importance.

OUR WORDS HAVE GREAT POWER

POWER TO BREAK DOWN OR TO BUILD UP

POWER TO BRING DEATH OR TO BRING LIFE.

Proverbs 18:21 says death and life are in the power of the tongue.

What we say about our brothers and sisters either kills or destroys or they build up and give life.

When you give life to something you give strength, ability, growth, change and activity.

Proverbs 15:4: Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

OUR WORDS CAN BRING DEATH EVEN IF WE DON'T SAY THEM DIRECTLY TO SOMEONE

ULTIMATELY OUR NEGATIVE WORDS, OUR OPINIONS AND JUDGEMENTS OF EACH OTHER THAT WE VOICE, BRING DEATH TO THE CHURCH AND GRIEVES THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR MIDST.

GOD IS NOT PLEASED WHEN WE DON'T SPEAK WELL OF EACH OTHER.

OUR WORDS BRING DESTRUCTION TO THE LIFE GIVING POWER OF THE CHURCH.

OUR WORDS CAN DESTROY THE REPUTATION OF THE CHURCH.

When we speak spiritual power is released into the atmosphere. As followers of Jesus, we can partner with God to influence and transform the atmosphere.

ILLUSTRATION:

In Genesis 1, we read of how the earth's atmosphere was dark and empty. When God spoke a 'let there be' word, that atmosphere was transformed. Light came. Life came. When we speak in agreement with what Father is speaking, creative power is released for the fulfillment of His plans.

Luke 1:37 For no word from God will ever fail.

CONCLUSION-----

1 John 4:11-12 niv 11Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Since God loves, so should we love.

ILL.- A man, about to enter hospital, saw two white coated doctors searching through the flower beds. "Excuse me," he said, "have you lost something?"

"No," replied one of the doctors. "We're doing a heart transplant for a man and want to find a suitable stone."

Could it be that our greatest problem in all of life is our heart?

Matthew 12:33-34 "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks."

We all desperately need a heart transplant. We need the heart of Jesus. And as we acquire it through faith, study, surrender, submission, etc. we will love, love, love just like Jesus did.

Reflect:

- Think of a few conversations you've had this week. Are there any careless words you need to ask someone to forgive?
- How often do you listen instead of waiting to speak? What can you do to be a better listener?
- Who do you know who could use some encouragement? Make time this week for an encouraging text or phone call every day.

pray