

Foundations Lesson 13

INTERPERSONAL PROBLEMS (PART 3)

The place of biblical love in the church

Outline

- Defining biblical love
- Biblical love and the purpose of marriage

Biblical love the supreme grace

Biblical love is the supreme grace that should characterize all of God's children. It's safe to say, if we do not have it, it's right to question if we truly know the Lord.

John 5:38-42 So, we need to get this right.

Distinguishing truths about biblical love

- Biblical love is a _____ of our being loved by God. **John 3:16, 1 John 4:19**
- Biblical love is a _____ that we are true followers of Jesus **1 John 3:16-23**
- Biblical love is the _____ Christ gave the church that distinguishes the community of God's people from the rest of the world. **John 13:34-35**
- Our _____ is motivated by biblical love **Gal 5:10**
- Biblical love _____ all of God's commandments for our relationships. **Rom 13:9-10**

Biblical love contrasted from natural or worldly love

- Biblical love is not something we were naturally born with, worldly love is. T or E **Rom 5: 5**
- Biblical love is defined by the commandments of God, worldly love rejects the commandments of God. T or E **John 15:10, 15:18-19**
- Biblical love is sacrificially sold out to the glory of God, worldly love is sacrificially sold out to self. T or E

- Biblical love will address and deal with sin. Worldly love will either ignore, affirm, or condone sin. T or E What are the issues? **Leviticus 19: 11 -18**,
- Biblical love will seek to preserve the purity of the community, worldly love will seek to exploit the purity of the community for the sake of one's individual rights or freedoms. T or E

Biblical understanding of love 1 Corinth 13:4-8

- Love is longsuffering
- Love is kind
- Love does not envy
- Love does not boast
- Love is not proud or arrogant
- Love does not act inappropriately
- Love does not seek its own
- Love is not easily provoked
- Love is not easily offended or easily hurt
- Love does not let offenses pile up (keep a record of wrongs)
- Love strives not take the sins of others personally
- Love does not rejoice in unrighteous ways or sinful activities
- Love rejoices in the truth
- Love bears the hardship, pain, suffering and adversity of doing the will of God in any given situation
- Love believes and hopes in the promises of God to accomplish the will of God in any given situation
- Love never gives up seeking to accomplish the will of God amid one's failures.

So, biblical love is not a feeling, but a commitment born out of God's love for us, to act consistent with the commandments of His word in how we relate to God, our fellow believers, and our neighbor.