

THE COST OF LOVING GOD

RC BLAKES

LOVING GOD WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART

Have you ever wondered how many Christians actually love God with all of their hearts? Do you really love God with all of your heart? When we consider the lengths many go to in soul tie relationships, our expressed love for God doesn't even compare to the obsession and self sacrifice people make for other people.

Luke 10:27

And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

IMPACT POINT!

There Are Some Things That Won't Happen Until We Actually Put Our Whole Hearts Into Loving God

Jeremiah 29:13

13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

IMPACT POINT!

It Seems Possible To Love God In Part And Not In Total. It May Be The Old: "I Love God But I'm Not In Love With God"

When we look at Luke 10:27 it seems as though he is outlining a list of areas through which our love for God must be expressed. Look at how it reads in the

AMPLIFIED:

Luke 10:27 AMPLIFIED

He said, "That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself."

WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE GOD WITH THE WHOLE HEART

1. LOVING GOD WITH THE HEART IS TO BE CONNECTED EMOTIONALLY

When a person loves God with the whole heart the relationship becomes emotional.

What is it like to serve God in a culture that for the most part ignores Him?

What is it like to serve God in a culture that ignores Him until a time of national tragedy and then cries out for God to bless their land?

What is it like to faithfully serve God and see few if any people ever respond to your message?

What kind of emotions does the one who serves God faithfully experience?

IMPACT POINT!

As Human Beings We Only Become Emotional About Things That We Value

Where there's no sense of value there's no emotional investment. We do not become happy or sad about anything we do not recognize as important. When we truly love God with the whole heart, it generates corresponding emotion.

Luke 24:50-53

And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with

great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

When we are invested there is an overwhelming sense of Joy that takes over our consciousness at times.

HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED AN UNCONTROLLABLE JOY AS YOU THOUGHT ON GOD'S PRESENCE?

1 Peter 1:8

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

IMPACT POINT!

When We Love God With The Heart We Also Grieve Over The Things That Grieve Him

Mark 14:69-72

And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, This is one of them. And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaean, and thy speech agreeth thereto. But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak. And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.

Peter's heart was broken because he knew that he hurt the heart of Christ.

HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU'VE CLEARLY HURT CHRIST?

IMPACT POINT!

We Also Become Angry About Injustice Towards The Weak And Poor Of Society

2 Samuel 12:1-5

And the Lord sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had

exceeding many flocks and herds: But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the Lord liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:

2. LOVING GOD WITH THE HEART INVOLVES CONNECTING YOUR WILL TO HIS

IMPACT POINT!

**To Love God With The Heart Does Not Mean That We Always Want
To Live According To God's Plan; We Simply Choose To Obey His
Will Over Our Own**

Luke 22:39-42

And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

The beauty of a submitted will is that it becomes our living sacrifice. We do not have to obey God we choose to. It is not by constraint but by love.

This Applies To Ministry Assignments

1 Peter 5:2

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

This Applies To Financial Stewardship

Exodus 35:29

The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the

Lord had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

3. LOVING GOD WITH THE HEART IS TO LOVE HIM WITH YOUR LIFE CHOICES

To love God with all of the heart also speaks of making choices based on our love for and connection to God. There are things that are neither sinful or immoral but may misrepresent our Heavenly Father to the world, so we choose to live to always reflect him.

Romans 14:14-16

I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean. But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. Let not then your good be evil spoken of: