



LOVE IS NOT SELFISH.

“[LOVE] DOES NOT INSIST ON ITS OWN WAY.”

1 CORINTHIANS 13:5b

CULTURE'S VIEW ON LOVE IN A QUOTE:

“The idea that to love means to be utterly selfless is a joke. Human beings are never completely selfless because it goes against our nature. We have evolved, as animals, to survive, which necessitates us looking out for ourselves first and foremost. How do you know you love someone? When you want him or her.

To love is to want to own.”¹ (Paul Hudson)

CHRISTIAN LOVE IS AN ANOMALY: 2 Corinthians 5:18-6:10

- Through honor and dishonor,
- Through slander and praise.
- As enemies or friends.

A DISTINCT DIFFERENCE:

- We believe that the Bible is wholly perfect and true.
- We believe that God created man in perfection, and yet, man traded perfect joy for fleeting pleasures (sin).
- We believe that God, through Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, saves sinful men.
- We believe that God, the Holy Spirit, now dwells within believers, and His love compels us to love others the same way He loved us.

COMBATTING LIES WITH THE TRUTH:

Lie #1: Love who makes you feel good. (*Emotions* by Mariah Carey)

Truth #1: Jesus loved His disciples, even though they would betray Him. (John 13)

Lie #2: Love is for those who deserve it. (*Whatta Man* by Salt 'N' Pepa)

Truth #2: Jesus loves those who sin against Him. (Romans 5:8)

Lie #3: Love only those who love you. (*As Long as You Love Me* by Backstreet Boys)

Truth #3: Jesus tells us to love our enemies. (Luke 6:27-36)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US TODAY?

1. REFLECT on the selflessness of God shown to us through the gospel.
2. RECITE the gospel to ourselves consistently.
3. REFUEL through reading Scripture and prayer.
4. RUN with the strength provided through the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives.
5. REJOICE in victories, when you see the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

¹ Paul Hudson, *Why Falling In Love Should Be The Most Selfish Act Of Your Life*, Elite Daily.