

# **REAL LOVE**

## **THE JEWEL OF THE EMOTIONS**

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### **PART ONE:**

#### **I. THE DEFINITION** (1 Jn. 4:7-8; 1 Jn. 3:16; Jn. 3:16; Jer. 31:3; Deut. 6:5; Lev.19:8)

“Real love is recognizing the value God places on a person and then it is acting upon that value with self-sacrificial service and God-ordained fellowship.”

#### **II. THE DEMAND** (Mark 12:30-33)

- A. His Example (1 Jn. 4:19)
- B. His Provision (Rm. 5:5)
- C. His Instruction (1 Thess. 4:9-10)

### **PART TWO:**

#### **III. THE DIFFICULTIES**

- A. The Hindrances To Real Love In My Life
  - 1. Selfishness stifles love (2 Cor. 8:1-5)
  - 2. Disobedience stifles love (Mt. 24:12)
  - 3. Fear stifles love (2 Tim. 1:7; Lk. 7:47)
  - 4. Lack of forgiveness stifles love (Eph. 4:32; 1 Pet. 4:8)
  - 5. Conditional love stifles real love (Lk. 6:31-35)
  - 6. Pride stifles love (Phil. 2:2-4)
- B. The Hindrances To Real Love In My Church
  - 1. Over-emphasis on doctrine stifles love in a local church (Rev. 2:1-4; 1 Cor.13:1-3,13; 8:1)
  - 2. Personal favoritism stifles love in a local church (Jas. 2:1-5, 8-9)
  - 3. Programs can stifle love in a local church (2 Cor. 3:5-6)

#### **IV. THE DECISIONS**

- A. Evaluate our lack of love (Ps. 139:23-24)
- B. Confess our lack of love (Rom. 12:9)
- C. Do something about changing (1 Pet. 1:22-23; cf. 1 John and 1 Corinthians 13)

**Closing Challenge:** (Eph. 3:14-21)

Real love is...a priority in my life!