

NEW SERIES: "MORE"

YOU DO CRAZY THINGS WHEN YOU ARE IN LOVE

-Feb 18,1993 first date- flew to Duluth

-In March I went to Florida and tanned a "P" on my chest

WE WERE YOUNG AND IN LOVE!!!!

LOVE CAN FADE IF YOU LET IT!!

-Have to DATE & TALK & PRIORITIZE TIME TOGETHER!

-THEN....we added kids and our LOVE grew!

LOVE GROWS: I love my kids, team & church!!

-BUT.....I better love Peggy FIRST!

-When it gets out of order.....It gets all messed up!

WHEN I PLEDGED MY LOVE TO PEGGY ON OUR WEDDING DAY....SHE
DESERVED NOTHING LESS THAN TO BE MY FIRST LOVE...

**SHE DESERVES NOTHING LESS!

I CAN LOVE OTHER THINGS.....JUST HER FIRST!

NOW TAKE THIS TO OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES!

Deuteronomy 6:5-12 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

¹⁰ When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, ¹¹ houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

THEN IN THE NT:

Matthew 22:37-39 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”
³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

SO GOD IS SIMPLY ASKING US TO DO THE SAME!

LISTEN TO THIS STORY ABOUT JESUS:

Matthew 19:16-22 Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?” ¹⁷ “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.” ¹⁸ “Which ones?” the man inquired. Jesus replied, ““Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, ¹⁹honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.”” ²⁰ “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?” ²¹ Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” ²² When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

JESUS WANTS NOTHING LESS THAN ALL OF YOU!

-this story was not about money.. It was about loving the Lord more than anything....

-Jesus knew this man's heart.....what was MOST important!

Revelation 2:2-5 To the church in Ephesus: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. ⁴Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

- hard workers
- would not put up with sin
- discerned false prophets
- persevered through hardships

BUT...They lost their first love.

-FORGOT THE "WHY BEHIND THE WHAT"

NOT LIVING IN REBELLION.....JUST ON AUTO-PILOT!

PEOPLE PRAY FOR REVIVAL!

Revival

(Merriam-Webster Dictionary)

1: an act or instance of [reviving](#) : the state of being [revived](#): such as

- a:** renewed attention to or interest in something
- b:** a new presentation or publication of something old
- c:** a period of renewed religious interest

2: restoration of force, validity, or effect (as to a contract)

BRINGING IT BACK TO JESUS!!!!

BARNA RESEARCH (January 18,2023)

SPIRITUAL OPENNESS IN THE U.S. Barna

% of U.S. adults who say...

I believe in God or a higher power



I would like to grow spiritually



I am more open to God today than I was before the pandemic



n=2,000 U.S. adults, October 21–31, 2022. | Source: Barna Group

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I BELIEVE REVIVAL STARTS IN OUR HEARTS!!!

Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.