

Enlightenment Worship: Tuesday Night Live!
Series: WWLD? (What Would Love Do?)
3/10/2015

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 New International Version (NIV)

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Principle Resources:

Love. Period (**Rudy Rasmus**)

Crazy Love (**Francis Chan**)

"Love Replaces Fear with Faith"

Air Quality of China

Love's Intentions, clean/refresh, the atmosphere of the life of the believer.
Love is intended to be unlimited, for everyone, at all times, everywhere!
Love is intended to be unlimited in experience, behavior, transcend all types of relationships and seasons.

LOVE=Liberation, **O**thers, **V**ulnerability and **E**ngage

L=Liberation

"Love liberates us so we can walk fully in the truth of God's love and reach out to others with great vulnerability, in order to engage others in a relationship that brings honor to God.

Relevant Question: When are we given permission to stop loving God or loving others?

Luke 10:27 New International Version (NIV)

²⁷ He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself."

Not sometimes, not sporadically, not with qualifiers. We are to love. Period, that means always!

What does Love do?

1. It sets us free to be wholly the persons God designed us to be how does Love work?
2. It allows us to be authentic, function fully at the peak of all talents, dreams, abilities
3. It allows s to fulfill Gods purposes for us

How does Love work?

1. It calls us again and again to the truth of Gods love for us

Power Point: Because God loved us, we are empowered to love others!

"If we are having trouble expressing love, feeling love or pursuing love.....then there is something blocking our freedom to love." As we remember that Christ died for us, we are confronted with the liberating truth that Christ also died for the person who stands before us in need of love.

O=Others

As ourselves, not more than or less than, but **AS!**

"Love is never something we possess exclusively for our own selves"!

True love is intended to be manifested upward to God and outward to others, without hesitation and with huge amounts of generosity.

V=Vulnerability

Madeleine L'Engle" When we were children, we used to think that when we're grown up we would no longer be vulnerable. But to grow up is to accept vulnerability.....To be alive is to be vulnerable."

Vulnerability involves uncertainty, risk, and emotional exposure.

Love requires a generous heart that is free of fear and a willingness to let yourself be known, even as you become willing to know others, including their unpleasant traits.

E=Engage

We may be willing to be vulnerable, but if we don't actively reach out and engage in speaking to, interacting with, and acknowledging the importance of others.....there will be no love.

Wow! How does that impact the kingdom, church, family, friends, and etcetera?

Page 40

Fear keeps us from Living in Love!

Pastor's Prayer for the City!

ALIGNMENT! Vertical, Horizontal

Pages 40-41, many of our fears are developed during childhood.

Most of our fears are learned!

J. Keith Miller "Compelled to Control" most of our fears are an attempt to conceal our true identity from others. We are afraid that if people know who we really are, what we really think, and what we are capable of doing, we will be rejected. And since we don't want to be alone, we polish up our outer personages until we honestly believe they are the real us."

Faith is the Opposite of Fear

How do we as the people of Faith address our fears?

FAITH!

Faith doesn't deny the reality or presence of fear; rather, faith is the power to overcome fear.

"You can learn incredible lessons from your heartaches and even find that Gods purpose for you has been shaped by those events".

God uses pain to get our attention and His purpose in doing so is a good purpose! When we experience God's love, we can lower our guard of self-protection, and we can love people without conditions.

Faith Releases Love That Overcomes Fear

Closing Thought: Pain is inevitable, we don't want to think about it, talk about it, remember our pain or ever be reminded of it. That brings us back to faith! Fear and faith can't live in the same space, the stronger spirit always dominates. We stuff our pain into a shell with a hard surface and bury it somewhere. The call of **LOVE** is to take a sledgehammer of faith to that hardened shell and not only break it open but defeat it by declaring, "Jesus loves me more than any situation, any experience, any abuse or any trauma can hurt me! God's word says that the love of God heals, restores and transforms my pain into a thing that brings blessing and glory! I choose to believe God's Word. It is a greater reality with greater power than my human-sized pain. Faith releases the love that overcomes fear and heals the deepest wounds of fear. It empowers us to **LOVE!**