**The Greatest is Love**

Do You know how much God loves you?

**What you know about God's love for you will affect every area of your life.**

**It will affect how you respond to God and to situations that arise in your life.**

**It will affect how you respond to people.**

**God's # 1 priority in your life is**

**that you understand how much he loves you, not how much you love him.**

**1 John 4:9-10,16 1 John 4:19**

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3** Though you have all gifts and understanding, if you don't know how much God loves you, you are nothing.

**If you don't know the Love of God ...Ask Him**

"God, will you show me how much you love me."

LOVE initiates love!

**You can experience God's supernatural provision and protection and yet remain outside of his rest.**

**The ultimate proof of faith is not the experience of the supernatural, ...**

**but understanding love that produces rest.**

Rest: experiencing life and circumstance depending on Gods provision

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 13, John 8:12** When you understand how much God loves you, you don't feel threatened and you respond to others with patience and kindness in adverse situations.

**Now a**bides faith hope and charity, the greatest is love.

If you understand how much God loves you, you will have faith and hope.

If you don't understand how much he loves you, you

 cannot have hope an you cannot believe in the midst of adverse circumstances.

We are His children and we are in His Kingdom ...correct? What is the Kingdom?

**Rom 14:17**   Righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost

**Where is the Kingdom? Luke 17:21**within us

Paul tells us in **Ephesians 3:16-19**

Believe-Be rooted in love-comprehend it- experience it

Knowing the full extent of Gods love surpasses knowledge

And enables you to be filled with his fulness

**Continue . . .**

Understanding God’s love for you is the # 1 priority in your life because without it, you can’t CONTINUE!

***John 15:9****As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.*

**2 Peter 1:17** Jesus had to understand that before he could continue

**Jesus was trained to assume the work of the Father Father**

***John 5:19****Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.*

***20****For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel*

The Father gave the son a revelation of His love for him and this equipped the son to love others as the Father loved him. Every response to the circumstances that he faced and every interaction with the people He came in contact with was a direct reflection of the love that He was loved with. Jesus only did what the Father spoke to Him; He loved! He duplicated His Fathers works!

***21****For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.*

The Father placed all judgment into the hands of the son.

***22****For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:*

Those that hear the words of the Son will live!

**John 8:15** I judge no man after the flesh

**John 12:46-50** If any man hear my words and believe not, I judge Him not but the words my Father commanded me to speak will judge him and His commandment ifs life everlasting. Jesus judged the world by Gods standard-LOVE!

Jesus was the light of the World.

He was the savior of the World.

He bore our burdens and lay down his life for us.

He was persecuted because He CONTINUED- in love. but He was not moved. The right to be loved by the Father was continually challenged. The love that He showed us initiated our love for God.

**CONTINUE…**

***JOHN 15:12****This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

***13****Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

***14****Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*

***15****Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

***16****Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

He shows us all things so that we can continue to do the work of the Father. He tells us to lay down our lives for one another and to bear each other’s burdens.

All judgment has been placed into our hands. He judges no one!

***John 20:21****Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.*

***22****And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:*

***23****Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.*

We are the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

We are His ministers of reconciliation. The love that we show others initiates their love towards God.

The disciples once had a discussion over who was the greatest.

The greatest see others the way that God sees them.

***Luke 22:23****And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.*

***24****And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.*

***25****And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.*

***26****But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.*

***27****For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.*

***28****Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.*

***29****And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;*

Until you see yourself as the beloved son sitting at the place of honor being served by Jesus, you can’t CONTINUE to love others in the same manner.

Jesus was persecuted-He was tempted-the love that the Father had for Him was challenged **( Matthew 4:3 if you are the son of God . . .)** and that challenged his right to CONTINUE! Jesus was not moved! He did not take offense!

***1 John 4:16****And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.*

***17****Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world*.

As Jesus is. . that you may have boldness in the day of Judgment **[accusation.]**

**According to Strong’s Concordance-the word day is defined by its context.**

***1 John 4:11****Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.*

***18****There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

***19****We love him, because he first loved us.*

***20****If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*

We will be persecuted and offended by those around us. We can have boldness in the day offenses come-if we have been made perfect in love.

***Mark 9:49-50 Message****“Everyone’s going through a refining fire sooner or later, but you’ll be well-preserved, protected from the eternal flames. Be preservatives yourselves. Preserve the peace.”*

***Mark 9:50  KJV*** *Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another*

*The most powerful force is love, but if you are not made*

*Perfect in love, or if you have forgotten how much God*

*Loves you, you can't CONTINUE in love. The salt has lost*

*It's savor!*

Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees! It leaches the salt out of the earth. The Pharisees offend and are offended because love to them is conditional! Only love can initiate love! When you are offended, or you offend others, STOP; run to the source. You can't continue unless you understand how much God loves you. Our judgment or the salt that we salt the earth with is to refer every offense to the overcoming power of God’s love. Meeting conditions does not produce love. Love initiates love.