

Reaching, Growing, Sharing Christ

A World Without Love

What if God was not a God of Love, and love was null and void while being nonexistent in this world we know of; could living be possible? I would suggest that living could not be possible or enjoyable, because **love is the foundation of our mere existence**. *A world without love* would mean being apart of a **cosmic chaos**, living in a state of confusion where every form of evil would preside and take precedence. Our lives would be dark physically, spiritually, and mentally. Without love, there would be no possibility of miracles or hope for a miracle of recovery. Without love, we would not need faith. Without love, marriages would mean only having a room-mate and the purpose of the marriage covenant would mean only having a contract with your spouse. Without love the need to bear children or adopt children would be purposeless & absurd. Without love, there would be no need for novels, good music, or the bible. And finally, without love, prayer would be meaningless and purposeless.



If love was absent, holidays would not be memorable or festive. The greatest practical demonstration of grace (unmerited favor) is love. Grace always shows love in care and concern for others, **grace is Love**. For God so loved this world that God gave his only begotten Son (John 3:16). When the legalistic Pharisees asked Jesus to name the greatest commandment, he told them the greatest commandment was to love God and others (Matt. 22:34–40). Paul also reiterates the preeminence of love in his famous love chapter in 1 Corinthians 13.

Therefore:

We can dazzle others with our music.

You can delight with humor.

Words and Speech can spellbind us.

You can organize us with your administration.

You can impress us with your giving.

But you cannot change us or the world without love!

Love can never be shallow, because it is too deep. It's frustrating in an impersonal world to want someone to love you unconditionally and faithfully and to hear them say either in word, attitude, or action:

I'll love you as long as you make my heart flutter.

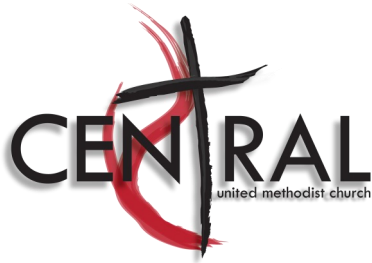
I'll love you as long as you live up to my expectations.

I'll love you as long as I need you.

I'll love you as long as you look good to me.

I'll love you as long as it's fun.

I'll love you as long as I have a good reason.



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Loving the lovely is a lot easier than loving the unlovely. It's much easier when it costs nothing. Yet Galatians teaches that God gives us the power through God's Spirit to love others. When we have the power of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:16–26) to step outside of our own self-centeredness and to think of others, then and only then will we see real love. The goal is to go from self-centeredness to Christ-centeredness to ministry-centeredness which is **Love**. *By the power of the Holy Spirit, we can love and serve others.*

There had to be a cross—some meaningful dramatization of God's will and way for persons in this world. Without the cross there would be no gospel. It is understandable why the cross was a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks; neither had a gospel—no recent word from God, no good news following their dark Fridays!

Peter and Gordon sang *“Lock me away
And don't allow the day
Here inside, where I hide with my loneliness
I don't care what they say, I won't stay
In a world without love
I don't care what they say, I won't stay
In a world without love*

Until Next Time,
Pastor Dorsey

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