

We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.

TIMES OF SERVICES SUNDAY

Bible Classes* 10:00 AM AM Worship 10:45 AM PM Worship 6:30 PM

Today's Preacher:

Ed Roberts

Audio CD's are available free of charge in the foyer.

Please visit our website: www.truthandright.org

If you have any questions regarding what we teach and practice, please feel free to ask

The Power of Love By Dee Bowman

The word love is perhaps the most commonly used and misused word in our language. Love has been so exhausted in definitions and quotations in this day, it has lost its effectiveness and its appeal. But love is a powerful word. It is defined as "an intense feeling of deep appreciation or fondness for a person or thing," but love means so much more than that. Love—I mean true love—is best defined through it's expression and demonstration. Love is the most prominent theme through the Bible. It is used when describing the relationships of fathers and sons, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters in Christ, etc. It is most accurately described in the relationship between God and His people. Through love God chose, and continuously forgave, the people of Is-

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rael. Through love God sent His Son in order that we may have a hope of heaven. Through love we serve God and we serve each other. Consider the power of love and what it can do for us. The Characteristics of Love. Love is from God. "Beloved. let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not know love does not know God, for God is love" (1 John 4:7-8). Love is from God and is to be displayed in us. We were made in God's image, and God is love. Therefore we ought to be lovely and loving.

This love is powerful. The wisest of all men, Solomon, mentions in his poetry to his bride that love is as strong as death. Love is also strong enough to cause death. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him" (John 3:16-17). Love is the greatest power of all. God's love for us is what saves us. It is only through His love and mercy that we will be forgiven.

The Effects of Love. "Where love is in the home there's happiness, where love is in the home there's joy; tho the fare may simple be, still it's very plain to see-where love is in the home there's joy" (Hymns for Worship, 308). The natural result of shared love is joy and happiness. Unity, peace and oneness are sure to follow. When considering Christian graces in , we read, "And beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity." Love has the power to bring families together

and keep them there. Love is the foundation upon which the family is built and the glue which holds it together.

Love's power not only holds the immediate family together, but it is the fuel which drives the church family, too. We are to unite ourselves in love; "make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose" (). Throughout this chapter, Paul speaks of our need to be like Christ and have His attitude in us. It tells us how we are to treat one another. We are not to be selfish or puffed up, but we are to love and serve one another. By doing so we will be serving God and strengthening each other.

Love one another!

Blessed is He who Reads Gary Henry

Reading is a lost art, I fear. It's a very ancient act, of course, but in our multimedia age, many have forgotten the importance of it. The skill of reading, the value of reading, and even the enjoyment of reading are lost on most of us nowadays. Developing a deeper devotion to God, however, is impossible without a good bit of reading: we must either read the Scriptures for ourselves or have them read to us. As John began the great prophecy of Revelation, he wrote, "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy" (1:3). There is a blessing that

comes from the reading and hearing of God's word that can't be gained by any other means.

Private Reading. There are very few of us who are reading the Scriptures privately as often as we need to. We may study a Bible lesson or two for our attendance at the local congregation, and we may follow along as the preacher reads a passage from the Bible now and then, but not many of us make the reading of God's word a regular part of our daily routine.

If you're serious about spiritual growth, you need to read the Bible every day. You need to read through the entire Bible on a regular basis, at least once a year. You need to read longer sections of the text, taking in whole books of the Bible at one or two sittings whenever possible. And while a detailed "study" of the Bible is also important, you need to simply read the Bible as often as you can, so that the sense of the text as a whole can make its proper impression on you.

In addition to your reading, you will also profit from listening to recordings of the Bible being read by readers who really know how to read. Cassette or CD sets of the entire Bible as an "audio book" are available, and if you'll learn to use these regularly, you may find that you enjoy hearing God's word read while you're driving, doing chores around the house, and so forth.

Public Reading. When John said, "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy," he probably had in mind the public reading of inspired writings in the Christian assembly. And when Paul directed Timothy to "give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine" (1 Tim. 4:13), he may also have had in mind the reading of the Scriptures when the

saints assembled.

Today, many congregations include a "Scripture reading" as a part of their assembly, but unfortunately, the reading rarely includes more than a few verses. Wouldn't it be profitable to have longer readings, even if it meant the preacher had to abbreviate his lesson to make room for the reading? And wouldn't it also be profitable if those who accepted the responsibility to read took that duty more seriously, carefully preparing and practicing the reading so that the real meaning of the text was made evident to the hearers by the manner in which it was read?

As a preacher, I've recently decided to slow down and actually turn to more of the passages that I cite. I am urging my listeners to turn to the passages in their own Bibles, and I am reading not only the verse that pertains to my point but also the surrounding context, with as little comment from me as possible.

I believe that I've been depriving my hearers of hearing the text read, and I've decided to rectify that. I've actually come around to this radical position: neither quoting the passage from memory nor projecting it on a PowerPoint slide is a good substitute for the preacher and the audience both turning to the text and reading it together in their own Bibles.

"Blessed is he who reads and he who hears," said John. Personally, I'm going to do more reading from God's word, both privately and publicly, and I'm going to seek out more opportunities to hear God's word read by others. How about you?

Members: Remember to fill out an elder questionnaire

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer
Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture
Reader
Prayer

Speaker Lord's Supper

Bread
Fruit of the Vine
Serve
Serve
Closing Prayer

Ed Roberts Nathan Marshall Ken Prager Luke 10: 21—42 Dan Marton Chuck Isinghood

Ed Roberts

John Lemal Harold Marshall Caleb Isinghood Wayne Campbell Don Coen Jr

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture
Reader
1st Prayer
Speaker
Communion
Closing Prayer

Nathan Marshall Harold Marshall Luke 11: 37—54 Earl Miller Don Coen Sr Ed Roberts Bryan Legg Chuck Isinghood

Wednesday

Class Prayer Announcements Song Leader Invitation Closing Prayer Ed Roberts Nathan Marshall Ken Prager Nathan Marshall Chuck Isinghood

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers: Sick/ Poor Health:

- Don Coen
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Robert Schwerferger, Alberta Headen's brotherin-law passed away
- Grace Lancaster, Ronald Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall Sr
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Liela Brady's surgery was Wed. She is recovering at home
- Jim Moore, Nancy Morris' nephew
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts. Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- **Gabriel Taylor**, 5 year old great grandson of Don dealing with cancer.
- Trudell Tennant
- The Hendersons & Campbells are out of town

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please contact Tim Henderson