

*The Light - Junior Series*  
*Lesson 76*

*God's Love*  
*Jesus' Love*



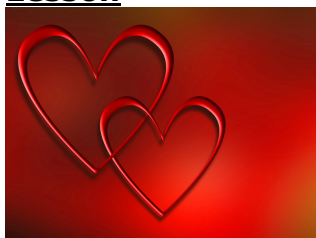
2013

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



## Lesson



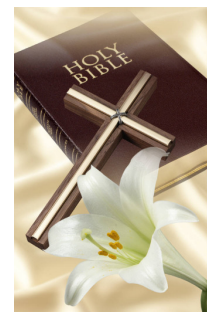
God loves us. How do we know this? The Bible tells us so. The Bible is the mind of Christ and God's love story to us. God's love is perfect and we can count on it forever! Let's take a look at just a few of the verses in our love story that tell us how much God and Jesus love us. Let's take turns reading them out loud:

John 15:12-13 "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have **loved** you. (13) Greater love has no one than this; that one lay down his life for his friends."

Rom 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own **love** toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

2 Cor 5:14-15 "For the **love of Christ** controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; (15) and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf."

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who **loved** me and gave Himself up for me."



Eph 5:1-2 "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; (2) and walk in love, just as Christ also **loved** you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma."

Eph 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also **loved** the church and gave Himself up for her..."

1 John 3:16 "We know **love** by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

1 John 4:9 "By this the **love of God** was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him."

1 John 4:10 "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that **He loved us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."



The love of God is supernatural...it is perfect...it is divine. This supernatural love from God is a love that is willing to suffer for us! WOW, kids!!!! Yes, Jesus suffered for us because He loves us and wants us in heaven with Him forever and ever. That's LOVE!!!!

This love from God for us is so unique and so perfect that it is counterfeit-proof. Satan CANNOT duplicate it. He can't even understand it because he rejected it.

Paul explains in detail this unique and perfect love from God in [1 Cor 13:1-7](#). "If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. (2) If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (3) And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. (4) Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant (5) or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; (6) it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. (7) Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things."

So this thing called love...how do we know when it's the REAL THING? After all, Satan tries hard to produce counterfeit love all the time to get you away from God's true love. In the last four verse of [1 Cor 13](#), Paul does not use adjectives to describe love. He uses verbs. He uses fifteen (15) verbs in four (4) verses. You know why? Because love is active. Love does things. We can't really even explain God's love: it shows itself in action, and you see what it does and does not do.

**The REAL THING!!**

God's love is required to demonstrate itself and put itself on display. In other words, God's love shows itself to us and through us if we're in His plan for our lives and letting the Holy Spirit guide us.

If you want to know what God's love is NOT, take the opposites of the verbs shown in the last four verses of [1 Cor 13:4-7](#). [Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant \(5\) or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; \(6\) it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. \(7\) Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.](#)



So the opposites of love are jealousy, bragging, arrogance, inappropriateness, selfishness, aggravation, insulting, cruel, bullying, holds grudges, super sensitive about a wrong suffered, etc. You get the picture? The opposite of love is really ugly.

The key here is that the opposite of love is Satan and his ways and the most obvious is that the opposite of love SEEKS ITS OWN...self...self...self! That's Satan alright. He's the most self centered creature EVER and he's way easily provoked. He holds a HUGE grudge against God and he's super sensitive about his sentence to the Lake of Fire!! And he's trying to get even with everyone and anyone who loves God and Jesus.

Satan wants to be God but he is so far from being like God because he lacks love and truth. He rejected both when he sinned. Satan hates. His entire being is full of hatred. So he is the EXACT opposite of God...our loving Father who gave us His loving Son, Jesus.

Satan's doesn't want us to love one another. He wants us to put up with one another but he wants us to do that by abandoning the truth of God's Word for the sake of just getting along by using our own ability. Remember he doesn't want us to rely on God...just ourselves. But God loves us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus who teaches us by His life and His Word that love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" ([1 Cor 13:7](#)) through the love of Jesus who saved us.



So here in [1 Cor 13](#) we've seen the real qualities of God's love. Also true love produces the fruit from the Seed...who is Jesus the TRUE VINE who produces the fruit of the Spirit and this fruit proves that God's love is genuine. The good Seed is the Word of God...Jesus! The fruit is the love of God. The fruit is a love that is alive. It acts. It gives. It's life itself...a love life. A life just like Jesus'. You can produce that fruit and show Jesus' love to everyone around you.

But always be on the alert! The enemy is sowing bad seed. The bad seed produces a false kind of love. Don't go there or fall for Satan's tricks. He's got a BIG bag of tricks, too, and unless you know God's Word, you can be fooled by him.



Here are a few lines from songs about love from the past...way past!!!! But you'll have fun with this:



Love is in the air...  
 Love, exciting and new...  
 Love the one you're with...  
 I'm just a love machine...  
 I love Frito's corn chips!



Now let's get serious again about true love.

Jesus and God's love is a love that chases that which is good for the one loved (that's us)! Satan's has no love because he promotes seeking anything for self and what's only good for himself without considering others so he wants you to do the same.

Let's not use love egotistically or selfishly like Satan would:

*"I love my new car because of how good it makes ME feel, how it makes ME look cool, drive fast, and others will envy ME."*

*"I love my friend because for what he/she can do for ME!"*

We are trained in this kind of love. The world trains us. Satan rules the world and this is how he wants us to behave. It's all around us today. You see it...the selfishness, I'm sure.

So because of the world and Satan's thinking, when the day arrives (like TODAY) that we hear that God loves us, we immediately look for what it is about us that gives Him something. We think like the world: "what's in it for God?" This is the love that Paul talks about in [2 Tim 3:1-4](#). **"But understand this, that in the last days (before the Rapture) (the end times) there will come times of difficulty. (2) For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) heartless, greedy, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, (4) treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God..."** In the last days, men will be LOVERS OF SELF!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! This is Satan!!!!

The OPPOSITE of this is for GOD so LOVED the world that HE GAVE...! You know the rest of [John 3:16](#), right? Let's say it together by heart.

Guess what! God loves us so much and gave us His Son for our own good. We were fallen creatures who had NOTHING to offer Him and in fact were in open and total rebellion against Him and ultimately would put His perfect Son to death in the process of being so loved!!!!!! Awful right? YES!!! The bad seed in mankind produces a false kind of love...a counterfeit love...the opposite of God's perfect love.

So in summarizing God's love today let's take a look at God's LOVE versus Satan's NON love:

Love that flatters only for the sake of gaining an advantage from someone is Satan's plan...the world's plan.

The true love, the love from God, God's love...is selfless.

False love is selfish. False love is self-promoting.  
True love is humble.

True love is patient.  
False love is impatient.

True love is kind.  
False love is unkind, unjust ([Hosea 10:12-13](#)).  
Take out your Bibles and let's read it together.

True love is giving.  
False love takes and is greedy.

True love rejoices in the truth.  
False love puts up with lies.

True love bears all things, bears your burdens for you.  
False loves puts burdens on you and others and won't lift a finger to help.

True love will be by your side on the evil day.  
False love runs away.

["No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for his friends."](#)  
True love lays down its own life so the one loved can have a better life.

False love saps life from you to gain things for itself.  
False love corrupts and ends in death.

True love teaches and ends in life more abundant just like God planned it to be!!!!

Love one another, little ones.

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on January 15, 2012  
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