

LOVE

Romance & Relationships



Part 1: *Understanding Our Purpose*

Part 2: *Exploding The Myths*

Part 3: *Entertaining The Possibilities*

Part 4: *Encountering The Truth*

Part 5: *Admitting The Implications*

Part 6: *Embracing The Source*

Introduction – Turning Up The Thermostat

“Falling in love” vs. true love ...

Nailing Down A Definition

Love is the will to extend one's self for the purpose of _____ honouring the _____ of a person.

This choice will always lead to the increased _____ of both the one who is loved and the one who loves.

IMPLICATIONS (WORKING BACKWARDS):

1. Love is always _____.
2. Love begins with _____ and ends with _____.
3. Love implies _____.
4. Love is an act of the _____.

Romans 13:10; 1 Corinthians 13:1-4; 1 John 3:16-19

John 13:34-35; Luke 6:27-36

Love From The Heart

The “HEART” is ...

- The true you ...

Isaiah 29:13; 1 Peter 3:3-4

- Regularly translated “mind” throughout the Bible ...

1 Corinthians 2:9

- The origin of our “thoughts and attitudes” ...

Hebrews 4:12

- The seat of the WILL ...

Romans 2:5

- The place from which we TRUST ...

Romans 10:9-10

“Follow your heart”?

Jeremiah 17:9; 11:20; 17:10

Conclusion – The Broken Hearts Club

Psalm 51:10, 17; Joel 2:12-13

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, puzzled, or encouraged you.
2. Explore and discuss this quote from M. Scott Peck: “Since love is work, the essence of *nonlove is laziness.*”

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Review **1 John 3:16-19** and also read **1 John 4:7-21**. a) What verse stands out to you the most? Why? b) Given the message of **3:16**, what are some examples of ways (large and small) that we can lay our lives down today? c) Why might western church-goers, even Home Church attendees, need to be particularly challenged by **3:18**? d) According to John, why are fear and love opposing forces? e) What are the implications of **4:20**? f) How does the fact that “God is love” relate to the fact that “God is light” (**1 John 1:5**)? What could be some of the implications of this?

SO WHAT?...

4. a) What could your Home Church do to better live out **1 John 3:18** together? b) What is one thing you could do this week to better live this verse out in your own life? c) Pray for each other in light of your answers to “b”.

LOOKING AHEAD...

5. Next week we'll be looking at practical applications of what we've been learning to various scenarios. You can start working on that now. How could a woman in a physically abusive marriage best love her husband?

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, March 2, 2003