

ASSESSING YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

Parents	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Siblings	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Spouse / other	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Children	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Coworkers / Boss	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Neighbors	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Church	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great
Jesus	1---3---5---7---9 Poor Great

Jesus:
“By this shall all people know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one to another.” John 13:35 (KJV)

Should we focus on Love?

There is not one marriage in today's culture that is not vulnerable. Why? Because we've allowed the culture to seep into our souls. Clearly we can no longer pattern our marriages after the people around us -- if we ever could. Not only does the world not know how to divorce-proof its marriages, it is well on the way to making broken relationships the norm! -- Dr. Fred Lowery



Growing in Faith

“Let love be your highest goal!”

1 Cor 14:1

Life Principle: You were made for **Relationships**

Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37-40

Life is an ongoing lesson in **LOVE**

“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.” 1 John 3:16

Choice “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” Mt 9:11

Connect “Above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3:14

Challenge “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Lk 10:27

Love is an expression of God's **Image**

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27

Love is **harder** than we realize

“But to you who are **listening** I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.” Luke 6: 27-28

NEW BEGINNINGS

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’^[f] ³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

³² “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

“whenever God wants to play a real nasty trick on us, He grants us our deepest heart’s desire, then laughs merrily when we want to kill ourselves.”

What is important is faith expressing itself in love. Galatians 5:6