



What the World Needs
Now ... is Love

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

March 1, 2026

Whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. – 1 John 4:7-8

Each generation adds one more link in a growing chain of pain that often seems unbreakable...unless someone recognizes what's wrong, deliberately rejects the examples played out before his/her eyes ... and chooses to allow the Lord to help them mark a new path. Bitterness, hatred, and relational rancor abounds. What we need now is a revival of Love.

Some Overarching Principles of Love ...

- I. God is _____ ...
cp. 1 John 4:8, 16
- II. Loving Each Other is Like _____ ...
cp. 1 John 4:12; Matthew 22:36-39
- III. Loving Each Other is Like Fulfilling the _____ ...
cp. 1 John 4: 17; Matthew 22:40; Romans 13:8-10
- IV. Faith Expresses itself _____ ...
cp. 1 John 4:16; Galatians 5:6; James 2:17; 1 John 3:14
- V. Loving Each Other is the Real _____ of Christianity ...
cp. 1 John 4:19; John 13:34-35; Acts 2:45
- VI. The Goal of our Instruction _____ ...
cp. 1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Corinthians 16:14

VII. In the Last Days, Love will _____ ...
cp. Matthew 24:9-12; 2 Timothy 3:1-4

VIII. The Absence of Love is not a _____ ...
cp. 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 Corinthians

Some Reflection ...

- I. Where Differences Exist, there also exist _____
_____ for Genuine Expressions of Love
- II. _____ a Lot of Mistakes, Blunders, & Failures
- III. I long to Personally Grow in Love; _____?

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

HONESTY AND PRAISE IN PRAYER

What is the Posture of your Heart as you Pray, Worship, and Come into the Presence of God?

The ideal answer is that we would always come to the Lord with thanksgiving and praise! However, let's look at David in many of his psalms. He often starts out with questions and expressing a hurting heart! "Why do You stand afar off, O Lord? Why do You hide in times of trouble?" To be honest, I believe EACH of us sometimes comes into His presence with these same thoughts and emotions.

If you pay attention as you read the Psalms, you will discover that even when David honestly expresses his questions and sorrows, he never lingers there. He moves His focus from what he sees and feels upward by speaking out truths of who God is and how He works. He speaks God's promises back to Him. He doesn't allow emotions to rule but speaks out truths to pierce the darkness.

A summary of many of David's prayers is that he was brutally honest with His Father and expressed all he was experiencing along with his questions and doubts. But he didn't linger there! He moved to praise and thanksgiving and a full focus on the Lord.

In what ways might you change how you are going to God in prayer to experience a deeper sense of praise and thanksgiving?

How can you put yourself in a better position to express praise and thanksgiving?

- Be intentional to do so!
- Highlight and/or keep a journal of scripture that speaks God's promises, His character and His ways.
- Meditate on Scripture that speaks truth into the darkness.



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Some Overarching Principles of Love ...

- I. God is **Love** ...
cp. 1 John 4:8, 16
- II. Loving Each Other is Like **Loving God** ...
cp. 1 John 4:12; Matthew 22:36-39
- III. Loving Each Other is Like Fulfilling the **Whole Law** ...
cp. 1 John 4: 17; Matthew 22:40; Romans 13:8-10
- IV. Faith Expresses itself **through Love** ...
cp. 1 John 4:16; Galatians 5:6; James 2:17; 1 John 3:14
- V. Loving Each Other is the Real **T-Shirt** of Christianity ...
cp. 1 John 4:19; John 13:34-35; Acts 2:45
- VI. The Goal of our Instruction **is Love** ...
cp. 1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Corinthians 16:14

VII. In the Last Days, Love will **be Scarce** ...
cp. Matthew 24:9-12; 2 Timothy 3:1-4

VIII. The Absence of Love is not a **Pretty Sight**
cp. 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 Corinthians

Some Reflection ...

- I. Where Differences Exist, there also exist **Great Opportunities** for Genuine Expressions of Love
- II. **Love covers** a Lot of Mistakes, Blunders, & Failures
- III. I long to Personally Grow in Love; **how about You?**

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