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This month has been a busy one to say the least. We have been on vacation and celebrated the holiday. So I apologize for the delay in bringing this months issue to you. The last two issues the Lord has given me a theme, this issue also has a theme and the Lord spoke to me very clearly about the subject matter. If the last two issues didn't seem deep enough, this one surely will. So with that said lets get started.

During the month of June our Pastors sermons have focused on love. Now there are many different idea's of what love is. The bible is the only book that defines love correctly. So in keeping with the scriptures I would like to examine love from two perspectives.

First is Gods love in Christ for all people, which is summed up in one verse from the New Testament John 3:16. (KJV)

Second is the love that we should exhibit as Christians as described in the New Testament in 1 Corinthians chapter 13.(NIV)

I have been seeking the Lord for a deeper understanding of His love. God has increased my understanding during the month of June, as I prepared to write this issue. He has lead me to discuss love as defined by scripture in the context of two area's.

1. God's call for unity
2. Embracing the truth

On the third page I will be sharing a summary of the revelation of God's love as given to me and others in our congregation.

In the body of Christ today we have so many different titles and denominational names. But God is calling us to love each other, to be in unity, and to embrace the truth of His Word.

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

¹If I speak in the tongues^[a] of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames,^[b] but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. ¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. ¹²Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

A word about Love (Unity and Truth)

In this section I will discuss two subjects, Gods call to unity and embracing the truth. As always I will provide some key scriptures and highlight some key points.

God has called us to unity. I would like to look at one section of scripture related to this subject :Ephesians chapter 4 in the New Testament. **Ephesians 4:1-6 (KJV)** ¹I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, ²With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; ³Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

God commands us in these verses through the hand of Paul to forbear one another in Love. God wants us to keep unity of the of the Spirit through the bond of peace. God tells us that there is one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism and one God (Father) of all. The body of Christ is fractured and split so many different ways. God never intended for this to be according to the scripture. In fact He commands just the opposite. God doesn't care what tag you put on yourself or what church you go to. Key Point to Remember: God expects and commands unity, to walk any other way is to walk in disobedience.

What is the answer ? The first two of verses of Eph 4 state it better than I ever could, to forbear one another in love and keep unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. This is the love that we talked about on page one. The love that God in Christ has for all people and the love we should show others as Christians. We need the love of Christ in our church, in our home, in our school, in our city, in our county, in our state, in our country, and in the world. Key Point to Remember: As the body of Christ we need to walk in love as Jesus did. We need to show love especially to our brothers and sisters in Christ whether we agree on every point of doctrine or not. We must make every effort to keep unity as we are all one in His Spirit.

How can we do this ? It's impossible we have to many established church's, that all call themselves Christian. But you see, it starts with you, the bible says YOU make every effort to keep unity of Spirit through the bond of peace. As we talked about in the last news letter you need intimacy with God to know this love and to show this love. We need to go into our prayer room, closet, etc and learn to walk in love from the Master. Read 1 Corinthians 13 and by faith-learn these verses and put them into practice. The Lord commands us to study the word not just read it.(2 Tim 2:15) As you walk in love and study God's Word, you must ask yourself a very important question. What I believe does it agree with God's Word ? If the Holy Spirit lives inside of you (1 Cor 6:19) and His job is to guide you into all truth. (John 16:13). Who or what is truth ? Jesus said I am the way the truth and life. (John 14:6). You shouldn't be relying on your church to determine how and what you believe. Key Point to Remember: You have the Spirit, you have the Word, you have everything you need to find the truth in Gods Word and embrace it.

Lets see what example Jesus gave us to follow regarding this. Now Jesus is the truth, so if we look in Mark 7:13 we see what His response was to the religious leadership of the day. ¹³*Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.* Your church traditions and doctrines should not make the word of God of no effect .You should study enough so that if your pastor, priest, or church teaches doctrines that aren't in the word, you should be able to recognize that. Key Point to Remember: If you love the doctrines or teachings of your church more than the truth, its an idol, you need to repent. Remember just because your church doesn't believe or teach something that's in the bible, doesn't mean it isn't true. The inverse of that is also correct, in that just because your church teaches something as truth, doesn't mean it is. Final Key Point: When we as the body of Christ have the Love of God in our hearts and embrace the truth of His word, (not the doctrines of men) then we will have unity.

Revelation of Love (The single greatest act of love)

This month I really pressed in to get a better and deeper revelation of God's love. The Lord first lead me to the greatest example of love ever written about. This is in the new testament in Luke chapter 2(KJV) ¹And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. ²(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) ³And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) ⁵To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. ⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. ⁸And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

God said if you want a revelation of my love read Luke 2. I sent my one and only Son to earth in the form of a man. I sent Him here to suffer and die for the entire human race; to be raised from the dead. So that you and all the people ever born could have eternal life, be cleansed from all sin, and have fellowship with God the Father. I never really saw how profound this act this was for the heavenly Father, as many times as I read this. This shows the level of unconditional love that God has. This is the single greatest act of love ever.

Revelation of Love (Find it in your heart)

The human mind can't grasp the revelation of this love. It can only be understood at the heart level. When you first made your commitment to follow Jesus was it not with your heart.

Romans 10:9 (King James Version) ⁹That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, **and shalt believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved

When you believed in your heart, isn't that when you were saved from sin, death, and the grave. You were saved from hell itself and translated into the kingdom of light. So as you can see Gods Love connects in our hearts and not in our mind.

Revelation of Love (Conclusion)

Yes a revelation of God's love does truly start in your heart. If you have experienced it then you know exactly what I mean. On the other hand if you have not, then you need to. Because no matter what you believe, think, or feel it's God's love that really makes the difference. His love is what will bring us together in unity, because without it we can never truly be one in Him. As we embrace the truth of His word it will allow us to keep the truth and share it with others.

We have so long embraced the doctrines of men, but now God is calling us to embrace the truth (Jesus). I write this in love in hope that you will take a long hard look at what you believe and why you believe it. Search diligently His word, seek Jesus and His examples. Endeavor to walk as He walked, minister as he ministered, love as he loved, and do as He did. I think this scripture sums it up: Matthew 22:36-40 (KJV)

³⁶Master, which is the great commandment in the law? ³⁷Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

ARK MINISTRIES

Our Vision

Helping you fulfill
God's promises and
calling in your Life

Reaching a lost world
for Jesus Christ

Providing strength for
God's people.

Our Mission

We are called to help
believers grow, equip
them to serve and to
activate them for min-
istry in the service of
our Lord

We are called to reach
the lost by living a life
that shows the love of
God to those around us.
We are called to care for
one another as the body
of Christ

We are called to encour-
age one another to ful-
fill the Great Commis-
sion, preaching the
Good News

An Invitation

Ark Ministries would like to invite you to join us. We are committed to letting the Holy Spirit lead the service. So come expecting God to move and speak as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Service times Sunday

9:30 a.m. Intersession

10:00 a.m. Service

Location:

Allen Park Civic Center Ice Arena

15800 White Ave.

Allen Park, MI 48101

For More information please visit our Web Site

www.arkministrieshome.com

Author Comments and Bio

We hope you en-
and pray it was a
Davis has been
for over thirty
served in many
church including



joyed this issue
blessing. Jerry
serving the Lord
years. He has
area's of the
worship leader,

youth, and men's ministry. He has been married for seventeen years to his lovely wife Carol they have two beautiful children. He has been with Ark Ministries from its beginnings. "I finally found a home where my gift can grow and it has". Jerry currently attends Destiny school of Ministry Apostle and Prophets institute.

Questions or comments to the Author or to be added to the monthly distribution. Please

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