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**THE REVOLUTION OF LOVE  
PART 1**

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**Second Ebenezer Church**



# THE REVOLUTION OF LOVE (PART 1)

## I. Introduction

### 1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

Do everything in love

### PROVERBS 3:3-4

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.  
4 Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.



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## 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

### II. KEY OBSERVATIONS ABOUT REAL LOVE

#### A. KEY OBSERVATION #1: THE RIGHT DEFINITION OBSERVATION

WE HAVE TO HAVE THE RIGHT DEFINITION OF LOVE  
TO LOVE THE RIGHT WAY



# THE REVOLUTION OF LOVE (PART 1)

## EMPOWERING DEFINITIONS OF REAL LOVE

### 1. A PRACTICAL DEFINITION

**LOVE IS A GENUINE COMMITMENT TO GIVE A LOT OF UNCONDITIONAL GRACE, MERCY AND CARE TO OTHERS**

This definition helps us to remember that grace, mercy and care are the crucial ingredients of love.

### 2. A PROPHETIC DEFINITION

**LOVE IS LETTING THE LIGHT OF GOD SHINE BRIGHT IN YOU AND ON OTHERS**

This definition helps us to remember that the light of God is the pure essence of love.



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## 3. A PERSONAL DEFINITION

**LOVE IS TREATING OTHERS LIKE THEY ARE SPECIAL TO ME AND GOD**

This definition goes a long way in helping me to avoid saying and doing unloving things.

## 4. DEFINITION OF UNLOVING

**WE ARE BEING UNLOVING ANYTIME WE'RE NOT BEING LOVING**

Anytime you're not acting loving, you're acting unloving. There is no middle ground or neutral place in matters of love. At best, neutrality is just a nice form of unloving.



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## **B. KEY OBSERVATION #2: THE RIGHT HEART OBSERVATION**

WE HAVE TO GET AND KEEP OUR HEARTS  
RIGHT TO GET OUR LOVE RIGHT



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## THE MAKING OF A GOOD AND GODLY HEART

### 1. GENUINE CONVERSION

Genuine conversion occurs when someone is born again by accepting Jesus Christ into their heart as their savior and lord. Firstly, genuine conversion brings us a new and improved capacity as human beings. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, " <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here!" We gain an added capacity to love as born again believers. Secondly, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our bodies when we make Jesus the head of life. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit and new capacity in Christ are big time difference makers and game changers in matters of the heart.



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## 2. GROWING CONSECRATION

The idea of consecration is the cleansing and setting apart of the heart to the word, will and ways of God. Jeremiah 17:9 describes the heart as “deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.” Therefore, like an engine in an automobile, it requires tune ups, oil changes and general maintenance on a regular basis to function and perform correctly. The spiritual maintenance of the heart is gained by consecrating it through the spiritual disciplines of prayer, bible study, worship and deep meditation to name a few. Hopefully it's the case that we can say we work smarter and harder at the consecration of our heart with each passing year.



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## 3. GENERAL CONFESSION

Confession should be a general, and not occasional thing we do as Christ followers. The truth of the matter is that we weekly, if not daily miss the mark and fall short of God's high and lofty standards of love. We're so bad that sometimes we genuinely desire and attempt to show real love and yet still fail and fall short, because of our love issues. Confession is the supernatural tool God has given to his followers to defrag, detox and deliver their hearts from the entanglement and filth of our sin and sinfulness. The transformational flow of God's love in our heart gets blocked up and selfishly corrupted when we fail to confess sin.



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## **C.** KEY OBSERVATION #3: THE RIGHT EFFORT OBSERVATION

WE HAVE TO WORK HARD AT AND ON LOVE  
TO LOVE THE RIGHT WAY



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## THE THREE KEY ASPECTS OF LOVE

### 1. THE QUALITY OF OUR LOVE

The idea with the quality of love is the caliber of excellence and empathy associated with it. It's imperative that we think, say and do loving things in loving ways. Some times we say or do loving things in unloving ways.

Two of the greatest examples of quality love in the life and ministry of Jesus was his encounters with the woman at the well, and the women caught in adultery. What a stark contrast it was with how Jesus interacted with the Samaritan women and how his disciples treated her. Likewise, it was intriguing to observe the different treatment given to the women caught in adultery by the religious leaders and Jesus. In both cases, the quality of Jesus love for the women with questionable reps was mindboggling and breathtaking.



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## 2. THE QUANTITY OF OUR LOVE

The idea with quantity of love has to do with the volume and variety of love you give to others. In Christ darkest hour on the cross of Calvary, he showed a whole lot of love, to a whole lot of people, in a whole lot of ways. He showed deep love to the religious leaders though they conspired against him. He showed deep love to his disciples though they deserted him. He showed deep love to the crowd though they mocked him. He showed deep love to the Roman soldiers though they crucified him. This love was shown when he said “Father forgive them for they know not what they do.” It is our duty, and hopefully our delight as believers to do the same. We too must show a whole lot of love, to a whole lot of people, in a whole lot of ways.



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## 3. THE QUICKNESS OF OUR LOVE

The idea with quickness of love is your response time with applying love. When someone exhibits a need for love, or the Spirit of God leads you to give someone love, how long does it take you to comply? Ideally, love should be instantaneous and automatic. Some of us have developed the unloving habit of withholding love until we're ready to give it, versus when someone needs it. We like to take our time with showing love, not realizing or caring that we can be too late with love. Actually, sometimes the next day is too late with love. It can be the case that the quality and quantity of your love doesn't matter if the quickness is off. Christ showed a great example of how quick our love should be with his response to the thief on the cross.