



Magnify the Lord With Your Love!

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Introduction:

- ▶ I. I want to begin today with asking a question: “Do You Really Love God?”
 - A. And, do you really love God?
 - B. Now, before you give a quick answer in your head, I want you to stop for a moment and really consider deeply the consequences in regards to your answer!
 - 1. Some of you might be thinking I love God because He has done so much for me!
 - a. And this indeed is a valid answer.

I John 4:19
“We love Him because He first loved us.”
 - b. It is easy to see all that Deity has done for us and reciprocate a level of love back to God!
 - c. Yet, how deep does such love go?
 - 2. Think for a moment, is the love that God has for us is based upon the level of love that we have shown to Them?
 - a. God does not love us because we love Them, but God love for us supersedes, it goes well beyond, what we do!

I John 4:9
“In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Romans 5:8

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

- b. Peter relates that Christ is our example to follow and He suffered and died showing His love for us. Since He is our example, we ought to develop a similar love.

I Peter 2:21

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

- c. Our love for others should not be based upon what they have done for us but rather who they are as an individual.
- d. Equally true, loving God should not be based solely on what the Lord as done for us, but rather who God is!

▶ II. Notice the love and admiration that David had for Jehovah God!

Psalm 34:1-3

“I will bless the LORD at all times;
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul shall make its boast in the LORD;
The humble shall hear of it and be glad.
Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together.”

▶ A. Friends, we should love the Lord and magnify God with our love at all times!

- 1. Our love, praise, and glory should be demonstrated to God all the time, not just when we receive Their blessings.
- 2. We are to love God even when life is difficult, rough, and hard; because God is still God!

B. I want to encourage all of us this evening to follow what the psalmist challenged us to do.

Bless Deity, Praise God, Boast in the Lord, Magnify the Lord, and Exalt His Name
“at all times.”

III. When we do this then we are to be the resources of God's handy work!

A. God uses us, to reveal Himself and His amazing love to others!

1. We sing songs that relate this idea:

- a. "Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord to Thee;
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Lord, I give my life to Thee, Thine forevermore to be;
Lord, I give my life to Thee, Thine forevermore to be."
- b. "Give me the heart of a servant, Tender and faithful and true.
Fill me with love, then use me, O Lord, So that the world can see
You."
- c. The last line of this song relates what happens when we are God instruments; the world will see Deity!

2. The Old Testament prophet Ezekiel was an interesting man that presented God's Message to Israel. God related that he was a "sign" to the people so that they "shall know that I am the Lord God." (Ezekiel 24:24, 27)

3. Are you a sign to the world around you for God? Do others see you and recognize Christ?

4. Paul related that the Corinthian Christians were "an epistle of Christ" that many others had "known and read." (II Corinthians 3:2-3)

B. So, are you allowing God to be seen in You? Are you blessing the Lord by demonstrating His love through you to this world?

Purpose:

The purpose of our lesson today is to identify three ways that we truly show and demonstrate our love, our praise and glory, to Deity. Which will also demonstrate to others the awesome love that Deity has for them.

Discussion:

- ▶ I. In order to show our love and glory to God then we need to engage ourselves in meaningful worship to Deity!

John 4:24

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

A. The reason many individuals skip and stop coming to worship is not necessarily due to the style of preaching, the use or non-use of musical instruments, or any other form of the worship service itself.

1. Most relate that they stop coming because they felt that their worship was meaningless and unfulfilling.
2. Now, understand that the elders and ministers indeed look for ways to make our services more meaningful. Our deacons in charge of services continually look for ways to create an environment that promotes the worship and helps all of us as worshipers.
3. Let me encourage you that if you have many ideas or thoughts that could better our worship services, let us know! We desire to provide the best environment for our worship.



B. Yet, many times we look for external factors to make our worship better; when the God has directed us to look and search within our hearts.

1. What one “gets from” worship should not be based from our surroundings but from what one offers and gives from their hearts to God!
 - a. It can be in a nicely lit and warm auditorium, or in a hut in the middle of a rain forest in Guyana.
 - b. It can be on a warm beach at sunset on a Caribbean island, or in a small apartment under the cover of darkness in China.
 - c. Godly worship can take place anywhere in any situation.
2. Our world is driven by our entertainment world.
 - a. If we are not entertained by the movie, sporting event, play, or concert; then we are unhappy and will not go back.
 - b. And that mentality I am afraid has come into God’s worship service. If we are not pleased, and we are not fulfilled, and we are not happy; so why continue to come?

c. It is as we have forgotten the real purpose for worship! We are here to honor and praise God (Deity).

3. What is the purpose of worship?

a. It is not about what we get from worship yet it is all about what we offer to God!

b. It is not about how the songs stir my heart but how my singing stirs the heart of God.

c. It is not about how the sermon impressed me but how I will allow God's Message to penetrate my heart and change me!

d. It is not about how fascinating the service might be to me but it is about my personal intentions and my desire to truly honor and glorify God!

4. Jesus related that in worship, God is watching us and He is seeking those that truly are honoring His directives concerning worship.

John 4:23

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him."

a. Our worship is directed to God.

b. Our worship is to be "in spirit." This means we put all our hearts, all our minds, all our emotions, into our worship to God.

c. Our worship is to be in "truth!" Meaning that our actions are to be in the manner that God has directed. We follow what God has asked us to do.

C. Worship to God is fulfilling and it is meaningful when we offer and give our whole heart to God.

1. This demonstrates our complete love and commitment to Father, to Christ, and to the Holy Spirit.

2. And when we worship God properly, then others will see our devotion to Deity and they will desire to know more about the God that we so deeply honor!

- ▶ II. In order to show our love and glory to God then we must make Jesus known to others. We must evangelize!

Matthew 5:14-16

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

- A. There have been many lessons and sermons taught from this pulpit concerning the amazing grace and salvation that the Lord has given.
 - 1. You remember that there are two conditions attached to the redemption that Deity offers us.
 - a. The first condition: The world must develop faith in Deity through the Message of God. From their faith they must obey the Lord’s directives concerning how to receive the gift of God’s saving grace.
 - b. The second condition: Once you become a Christian then you have the responsibility to go and teach others the Gospel so that they can know about God’s Word and accept His salvation as well.
 - ▶ 2. Christians have the awesome responsibility to go and teach others and if we do not follow this “Great Commission” then we will be cut off from Christ.
 - a. As Christians, we are the Lord’s fruit farmers. He gives us directives concerning our responsibilities as His fruit farmers.

John 15:2, 5-6, 8

“Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.”

“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.”

- b. Notice that if we “bear fruit” then the Lord will provide us opportunities to bear even more fruit.
 - c. However if we do not “bear fruit” for God, then we will be cut off from the “branch,” we will “wither,” and then thrown “into the fire.”
3. Surely from this description we see the awesome need to be evangelistic and teach others the Message of Christ.
- B. So, look at your life, are you shining the light of Christ into this world?
- 1. When we fulfill the Lord’s Commission to teach others then we glorify and demonstrate our love and devotion to God!
 - 2. And recognize what happens! Other come to love the Lord and they desire to be committed to Christ glorifying and honoring Him as well.
 - 3. We must turn our eyes upon Jesus and help others to do the same!

“O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

Thru death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion—
For more than conquerors we are!

His word shall not fail you— He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.”

- C. When we honor the Lord by teaching others the “Good News” of Christ concerning how to receiving His mercy and love then indeed we demonstrate our devotion and honor for the Lord and others will come to do the same.

▶ III. In order to show our love and glory to God then we need to edify those that are struggling and fallen away from Christ. We need to reclaim those who were once saved!

- A. There are many who teach that once you are saved then you can never lose your salvation.

- 1. Yet, if we look closely not just at a few of the epistles of the New Testament but all of them; then we will see Paul, Peter, John, and others encouraging all Christians to remain faithful.

- 2. Notice the encouragement that these Bible writers related to their Christian readers:

- a. Paul writes to the Christians in Corinth telling them not to take temptation lightly.

I Corinthians 10:12

“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”

- b. He also writes to the Christians in Galatia encouraging them not to revert back to the Old Testament Law because if they do, they would fall from grace.

Galatians 5:4

“You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”

- c. Peter also teaches that if we follow God’s directives as Christians, particular the Christian graces, then we will have no worries about falling from Christ.

II Peter 2:8-10

“For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;”

- d. Peter later states that it will be worse on those that had known and followed the Gospel but then turned back into the sin of the world.

II Peter 2:20

“For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.”

3. Over and over the New Testament writers encouraged all of us to remain faithful to the Lord because it is possible to fall from the Lord.



- B. This directive is true for us today! We must edify the faithful to remain faithful and reach out to those that have fallen and encourage them to be restored.

1. James encourages us to restore those that have wandered from the Truth because such will save them and ourselves from spiritual death

James 5:19-20

“Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”

2. I appreciate so many of you that do such a good job keeping up with others in the congregation. You make calls and visits offering your encouragements and concerns. This is a heart that brings joy to God and all the other inhabitants of Heaven.
3. Jesus tells the parable of the shepherd that loses one sheep out of his hundred, yet he goes out seeking and searching for his lost sheep. And when he finds it, he rejoices. (Luke 15:1-6)
4. And then Jesus states that there is “joy” in Heaven, when one sinner repents and returns to the fold.

Luke 15:7

“I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.”

5. It is awesome to recognize that we can cause “joy in heaven” by encouraging those who are struggling.

- C. Look around! So there someone missing? I challenge you to make the loving effort to reach out and contact them. Encourage them to come home to Christ!
- D. We demonstrate our love and commitment to the Lord by encouraging others to remain faithful to Deity and if they have fallen away to consider restoration to the fold of God.

And when such happens all of Heaven notices and rejoices!

Conclusion:

- ▶ I. David in the 34rd Psalm encouraged us to continually:
 - A. Offer Blessings and Praise to God, Boast of Him, Magnify His glorious name and not ourselves, and Exalt Him above all in our lives.
 - ▶ B. In our lesson tonight we noticed three ways in which we could pursuit this challenge and demonstrate our Love to the Lord which will make a difference in the lives of others.
 - 1. Let us properly worship God with our actions of obedience and with our complete and open heart to Him.
 - 2. Let us make Jesus known to all those in whom we contact. Present the Lord's Message to this dying world.
 - 3. Let us encourage our fellow brothers and sisters that are struggling and even have fallen back into the world.
 - C. There are many this week that will be thinking of Christ, however after the holidays is it back to the daily same old grind with barely another consideration of Deity until Easter or next year.
 - D. Challenge yourself to have the Lord God in your life every single day, every minute, yes every second of your life allow the Lord to take control.

- ▶ II. Do you really love the Lord?

Tonight, if you need to heed the calling of the Lord, which is found in His precious Word, then we are here to assist you.

- A. If you want to know more about the Bible and what God has directed us to fulfill then feel free to ask us to study His Message with you. I promise we will present only God Word to you!
- B. If you have studied and you know what you need to do in honoring and obeying the Lord. Then then again let us assist you!
- C. If you as a Christian have been struggling and even fallen from the love and grace of God, then be restored! Come back to Christ repenting of our sins.
- D. If you just desire the prayers of the wonderful Christian folks hear, then we are willing to pray on your behalf to God.
- E. Whatever your need come as we together stand and sing!