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What Is Love?



Faithfulness: Trusting God One Step at a Time

by BILL MARKHAM
Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



Faithfulness often feels like a journey through uncharted territory. Abraham knew this well.

He stepped out in obedience, leaving his homeland for a destination God would reveal later. He didn't have a detailed map, but he trusted God one step at a time. Moses, too, exemplifies faithfulness. Confronted with a daunting call to lead Israel out of slavery, he didn't have all the answers. Yet, he said yes to God and witnessed miracles unfold, one act of obedience at a time. Esther's faithfulness shines as well. Facing the peril of approaching the king uninvited, she trusted God with each step. Her courage and obedience saved an entire nation.

These heroes of faith didn't have everything figured out. They experienced doubt and fear, yet they chose to trust God in the moment. Their faithfulness reminds us of a simple truth: We are responsible for our obedience; God is responsible for the outcomes. The application is clear: Ask God, "What do You want me to do today?" Let go of past regrets and future fears and focus on faithfulness in the present. Maybe it's a small act of kindness, a word of encouragement, or a step of service, even when it's inconvenient or difficult.

Faithfulness isn't about knowing the whole plan; it's about trusting the One who does. Like stepping out of the boat in the storm, the challenge is clear: Are we willing to trust God with today and leave the results in His hands?

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God's Intentional Love

by *Marissa Nordlum*

Digital Graphic Designer, CBN



I'll never forget my first Valentine's Day being married. My husband and I were living paycheck to paycheck. That year, I learned that you don't need to do anything expensive or fancy to show love. You just need to be intentional.

Intentionality in a relationship shows that you care deeply enough to prioritize the person you love. But even the most romantic earthly relationship, as intentional as it can be, has nothing on the romantic intentionality of our Saviour.

John 3:16 shows us the intentional love of God when it says, *For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life* (NLT).

From the dawn of time, God has intentionally showed His love for us. His unconditional love doesn't just stop at salvation. He relentlessly pursues us every single day of our lives.

In Jeremiah 31:3, God tells us, *"I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself."*

The greatest love story ever told is written by God—for us. It is a never-ending, unmeasurable, and unfailing type of love.

As we approach a holiday that is all about chocolates, heart-shaped boxes, fancy dinners, and romantic words, remind yourself that the Saviour of the world wrote the most romantic love story just for you—a love that laid down everything so that we could be reunited with God. How great is our Saviour's intentional love!



Visit 700Club.ca/Devotions to experience God's Word and renew your walk with Him with 700 Club Canada's Devotionals. We're excited to offer encouragement, guidance, and biblical truths.

What Is Love?

By Andrew Burditt
PRESIDENT, THE CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING ASSOCIATES



February is known as the month that we celebrate Valentine's Day, which for many, is a holiday and time to express our love for one another. But what does that love mean? It is a romanticized love—and while there is nothing wrong with that, the holiday itself has become heavily commercialized.

Businesses use it as an opportunity to increase sales, romantic films (or rom-coms) will air on television and in the cinema, and you'll even see the symphony opera or ballet focus their repertoire choices around this theme. Valentine's Day encourages us to express our love for our spouses and significant others through gifts. We probably spend too much time and money looking for the right gift, beautiful flowers, chocolates, and perhaps even a nice dinner out as a couple.

The history of the original St. Valentine may never be fully known, but he is understood to have been either a bishop or a priest in the third century that performed marriages in secret and converted many to the Christian faith. There is even some speculation that he signed a letter "Your valentine," which led in part to the development of this holiday we celebrate during the month of February.

Romantic love is important, but what does the Bible teach us about love? Perhaps one of the most well-known verses is John 3:16, *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life* (NIV).

This passage so beautifully summarizes God's love for us and the sacrifice that was made on our behalf. We memorize it as children because its message is so incredibly powerful and profound.

First Corinthians 13 is best known as the "love chapter" and is often read at weddings, as it defines what love should look like, emphasizing that *now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love* (v. 13).

Transform Your Mind

by EMILY JAMES

Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



Each day, our minds are filled with countless thoughts—some uplifting and others discouraging. It's easy

to feel trapped by negativity, doubts, or worries. But as believers, we are invited into something far greater: the freedom of a transformed mind. Romans 12:2 says, *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will* (NIV).

This transformation isn't about simply trying harder to think positively. It's about allowing God to reshape and align our thoughts with His truth. When we embrace this renewal, we begin to see ourselves and the world through His eyes. It helps us shift our focus from what's wrong to what reflects God's goodness.

This shift changes everything. Failure is replaced with grace, defeat with hope, and frustration with peace. A renewed mind allows us to experience life as God intended, free from the chains of negativity and filled with clarity and joy.

So how can we begin? Start with God's Word—reading, reflecting, and applying it daily. Create moments of quiet to rest in His presence, surrendering your worries to Him. Finally, intentionally fill your life with things that refresh your soul, like worship, nature, or meaningful connections. These simple steps create space for God's Spirit to renew you, shaping your thoughts with His truth. Today, ask Him to guide your mind, transform your heart, and discover the peace and freedom that only He can give.

Love is indeed the greatest and most important part of our faith, but did you know that in the ancient world, there were actually multiple words used to define various types of love?

Storge is best known as "family love" and one that refers to the care and affection between family members and close friends.

Phileo often describes a general warmth that we have for others, including cities or communities with common values—brotherly love.

Eros describes the love expressed between a husband and wife that is a gift from God.

Agape is a word that we frequently hear within church settings. It represents our sacrificial love for one another. God's love for every person on earth is the foundation for **agape**.

As we spend time thinking about our love of family, for one another, for our spouses, and for friends, take a moment to thank God for the gift of His love for each of us, remembering Jesus' words found in Matthew 22:37-39, "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 neighbour as yourself.'"

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NEVER REJECTED

Michelle had faced nothing but rejection throughout her childhood—leading to a strong desire to fit in, but instead, it only led to drugs and more insecurity. Then one day, she met someone who took her to church—and both of their lives were changed. Watch and see how God intervened.



WHEN GOD WRITES YOUR LOVE STORY

When Josh felt God leading him to end his stable relationship, he didn't understand. Little did he know that God had a plan for him to meet his future wife, Ashley. You won't want to miss their sweet love story.



A SURPRISING NOTE

Tina had collapsed and remained unconscious for nearly half an hour before doctors revived her. With little hope that she would survive without brain damage, everyone was surprised when she woke up and scribbled something shocking onto a piece of paper. Don't miss what happened next!



NOT THE LIFE SHE WAS MEANT FOR

Growing up craving attention, Jasmine was an easy target for a man who forced her into a life of prostitution. She finally escaped, but she didn't know she could change how she felt inside. Then, she met an older woman who showed her a different kind of life. Witness her incredible testimony now.

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- JoyTV 10 – Vancouver
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- The Miracle Channel
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- WNYO TV49 – Buffalo
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Thursday, February 27, 8 p.m. ET

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hosted by **Abraham Somavarapha**

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LOVE: THE KEY TO MIRACLES



by GORDON ROBERTSON
President and CEO, CBN

Never doubt God's love for you. You are so precious that Jesus was willing to give Himself as an offering for you, even if you were the only one ever to believe in Him.

Jesus tells us, *"For God so loved the world"—that's you—"that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16 KJV).

You can be a "whosoever." You can believe for your life, for your loved ones' lives, or for anyone you're praying for. You can trust the living God, and He will do a miracle. He will answer you because He loves you infinitely.

When you understand that faith works through love, you have the key to miracles. If you think you've sinned too much for God to love you, that's not scriptural. The Bible declares, *God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us* (Romans 5:8 NKJV).



He knows all about everything you've ever done wrong and He says, "You're still mine. I still want you. I want you for eternity, and I paid the price." Jesus is the author and finisher of your faith (Hebrews 12:2), and His finished work on the cross is all that you need.

Simply believe that you stand before Him cleansed and justified—just as if you've never done anything wrong. You have bold access to the throne of grace. Through Christ, you can walk right into the Father's throne room and say, "Daddy, I'm here and I need some help." And He will give you that because He loves you.

When God stretches forth His hand to you, miracles happen. All you have to do is take that loving hand and say, "Yes, Lord."

God bless you!

Excerpted from a teaching on *The 700 Club*.



A Time for REFLECTION and AWE

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