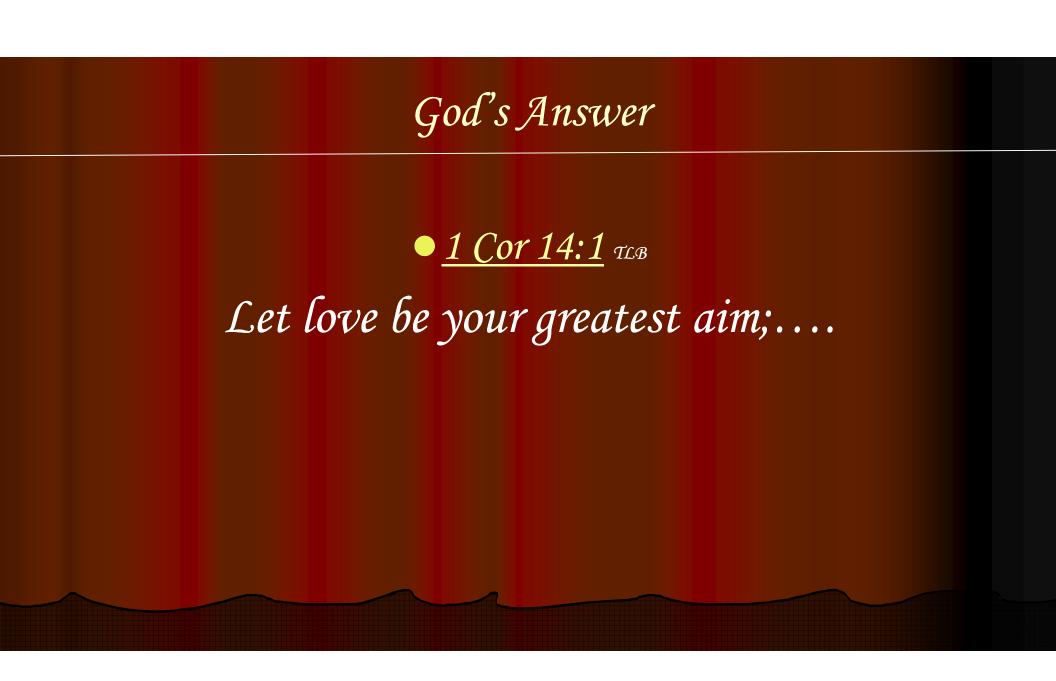
## What Should Be Your Number One Aim in Life?

Part 2 2019



If you want to live this physical life the best that it can be lived, what does God say must be your <u>dominant life guiding</u> <u>value</u> on which you are to base all of your <u>decisions/choices/actions?</u>



So the first question we need to ask when we have to make a decision/choice and take an action is.....

Is my decision based on having love as my greatest aim in life?

If it is, then go for it....put action behind your decision and be confident that God will support it. According to one <u>Google search</u>, there are over <u>106 Bible verses</u> on *love*.

Being informed about love and talking about love is the easy part.

The difficult part is <u>doing it</u>....but <u>love is a skill</u> that can be learned I developed with practice like any other skill.

<u>Deut 30/11-14</u>...."...not too hard for you...not beyond your reach....you can do it...."

He Reinforces that Greatest Aim Command with These Scriptures

<u>1 Сот 16:14</u> ямр

Let <u>everything</u> you do be done in love (true love to <u>God</u> and <u>man</u> as inspired by God's love for us).

#### <u>Matt 6:33</u>

"But seek first the kingdom of God (who is LOVE) and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

#### Love is Both

New Testament and an Old Testament Command
Matt 22:37-40 Jesus said... "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,....soul,....and mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself (easy to love those who love you but the command is also to love the unlovable).' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

• <u>Deut 6:4-5</u> 'Hear, O Israel (Shema – hear/obey): The Lord our God, the Lord is one! 5 You shall <u>love the Lord</u> your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

#### Love is Both

New Testament and an Old Testament Command

• <u>Deut 10:12-13</u> "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to <u>walk in all His</u> <u>ways</u> and <u>to love Him</u>, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to <u>keep the commandments</u> of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today <u>for</u> <u>your good?</u> (for whose good?...for your good)

 <u>Lev 19:18</u> .....you shall <u>love your neighbor</u> as yourself: I am the Lord.

#### Love is all about Relationships

- <u>Love towards God</u> vertical relationship
- <u>Love towards others</u> horizontal relationship
  - •<u>Human love</u> with human love you can love the lovable.
  - <u>Godly love</u> but it takes Godly love to be able to love the unlovable
- <u>Matt 5:43-47</u> "You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, <u>love your enemies</u>, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,...46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you?.... even the tax collectors do the same?

#### Love is all about Relationships

- <u>The healthier your relationships</u>, the healthier your life will be physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- <u>The end result</u> best life possible on this earth in this physical body and awesome rewards in the next life.
- What section of the auditorium do you want nosebleed section or front row seats section?

### Basic things that God says about love!!!

#### #1 – We love because God loves us.

- <u>1 John 4:7-9</u> Mr Beloved, let us <u>love one another</u>, for love is <u>of</u> <u>God</u>; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, <u>for God is love</u>.
- <u>Love is God's character</u>....He is the source of all love....He not only "has love".....He "is love".
- <u>God living in us gives us the ability to love</u>....to love even the unlovable....but this take practice.
- <u>We are to become like Jesus:</u> To be able to lead people to God, we must have God in us and be like Christ.

## <u>Con't</u>

- <u>1 John 4:19</u> MV We love because God first loved us.
- <u>God has taken the initiative</u> to love us first....by <u>creating us</u> and by <u>sending Jesus Christ</u> to die for us. While we were yet sinners, He died for us.
- <u>Toothpaste analogy</u>: Because of our past, we may be filled with hurt, anger, impatience, betrayal, abuse, failure, disappointment, etc. many times that is what comes out when our buttons are pushed. Hard to give to others what we don't have to give.
- <u>Gentle Healing of the Inside Is Needed</u>: Once we begin the journey to live under the influence of God, we begin the healing by starving the old man and feeding the new man.

We'll continue this series next week....we are just laying the ground work for this series.

For now, here is the action we can take this coming week.

### Thank God for the Love Challenges in Your Life

- <u>In order for us to grow</u> in love, we need to practice loving others, especially hard —to-get-along people.
- <u>God will do His part</u>, but we need to do our part.
- <u>Rom 5:3-5</u> We can <u>rejoice</u>, too, when we run into <u>problems</u> and <u>trials</u>, for we know that they <u>are good for us</u>-they <u>help us learn</u> to be patient. 4 And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady.

# Be thankful for the opportunities you have to grow in this type of love.

## If you don't have any problems or trials, ask God for some.

#### Vision/Mission/Value Statements of the COGSA

• <u>Mission</u>: "To make disciples who make disciples...and in the process, help change lives through the Power of God's Applied Word to heal a broken-hurting world".

 <u>Vision</u>: "To prepare a people for servant-leadership with Christ in Tomorrow's New World".

• <u>Values</u>: "To represent the government of God on earth in all areas of life by demonstrating the following behaviors:

• Love God – Vertical Relationship (Worship & Discipleship)

• Love One Another – Horizontal Relationship (Fellowship/Ministry)

• Love the World – Outward Relationship (Evangelism)

June 9<sup>th - Sunday</sup> Pentecost (Valencia Room – 11:15am) potluck

Cancel Sabbath, June 8<sup>th</sup>.