

Welcome to

calvary
chapel
portsmouth



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Simply teaching the Word simply

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,
and though I give my body to be burned, but have
not love, it profits me nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy;
love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;
- 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not
provoked, thinks no evil;
- 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7
bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,
endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

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...a more excellent way

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- Session 1 – The Father's love for us
- Session 2 – Our love for the Father
- Session 3 – Our love for one another

Our love for the Father

- 35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,*
- 36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?*

Matthew 22:35-36

Our love for the Father

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

Matthew 22:37-38

- A summary of the 1st 'tablet' of the Law

The 10 Commandments

Deuteronomy 6:5

1. You shall have no other gods before me
2. You shall not make idols
3. You shall not take the LORD's name in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath

'Love the Lord your God'

Leviticus 19:18

5. Honour your father & mother
6. You shall not kill
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steel
9. You shall not lie
10. You shall not covert

'Love your Neighbour'

1st Commandment

3 Thou shalt have no other gods **before me.**

Exodus 20:1-3

- Heb *'al*
- Lit: 'Besides Me'
- 'No other gods in My presence'

“פני על פן - *Let there not be to thee other gods,*”

lit., beyond Me or in addition to Me, equivalent to (lxx),
Keil & Delitzsch

“The first commandment is concerning the object of our worship, Jehovah, and him only, Thou shalt have no other gods before me - The Egyptians, and other neighbouring nations, had many gods, creatures of their own fancy. This law was pre - fixed because of that transgression; and Jehovah being the God of Israel, they must entirely cleave to him, and no other, either of their own invention, or borrowed from their neighbours. The sin against this commandment, which we are most in danger of, is giving that glory to any creature which is due to God only”

John Wesley

“Pride makes a God of ourselves, covetousness makes a God of money, sensuality makes a God of the belly. Whatever is loved, feared, delighted in, or depended on, more than God, that we make a god of. This prohibition includes a precept which is the foundation of the whole law, that we take the Lord for our God, accept him for ours, adore him with humble reverence, and set our affections entirely upon him”

John Wesley

- Loving God is not a superficial emotion
- It requires our whole person being united in obedience and worship to Him

Other gods?

- 4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

Psalm 96:4-5

Other gods?

- 2 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God?
- 3 But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.
- 4 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.
- 5 They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:

Psalm 115:2-8

Other gods?

6 They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:

7 They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.

8 They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.

Psalm 115:2-8

Self: The Great Pretender

“We no longer feel ourselves to be guests in someone else’s home and therefore obliged to make our behaviour conform with a set of pre-existing cosmic rules. It is our creation now. We make the rules. We establish the parameters of reality. We create the world, and because we do, we no longer feel beholden to outside forces, We no longer have to justify our behaviour, for we are now the architects of the universe. We are responsible to nothing outside ourselves, for we are the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever.”

Jeremy Rifkin

1st Commandment

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:1-3

- God is a jealous God
- God alone wants to be the object of our worship

Jealous God

¹⁴ For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

Exodus 34:14

Jealous God

²³ Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

²⁴ For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

Deut 4:23-24

What do we Worship?

- We worship that which we love
 - Hobbies
 - Passions
 - Self
 - Material possessions
- But how often are we 'forced to worship' that which we fear?
 - Job / Career
 - Finances
 - Circumstances
- Perfect love casts out fear – 1 John 4:18

What do we Worship?

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Tim 6:10

What do we Worship?

24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matt 6:24

Our love for the Father

¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

1 John 4:18

- If we fear God, we'll fear nothing else

“Suppose God is the God you know Him to be when you are nearest to Him, what an impertinence worry is!

“Worry is evidence that the ruling disposition of a persons life is not God”

Oswald Chambers

“The duties required in the First Commandment are, the knowing and acknowledging of God to be the only true God and our God; and to worship and glorify Him accordingly, by thinking, meditating, remembering, highly esteeming, honouring, adoring, choosing, loving, desiring, fearing of Him, believing Him, trusting, hoping, delighting, rejoicing in Him, being zealous for Him, calling upon Him, giving all praise and thanks, and yielding all obedience and submission to Him with the whole man; being careful in all things to please Him, and sorrowful when in anything He is offended; and walking humbly with Him.”

The Westminster Confession 1646

Our love for the Father

²³ O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD
preserveth the faithful

Psalm 31:23

Our love for the Father

¹⁹ We love him, because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19

Our love for the Father

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

Matthew 22:37-38

- Heart
- Soul
- Mind

Our love for the Father

- 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
- 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

1 John 2:4-5

- The Word is essential if we are to love God
 - Without the Word, we cannot know God

Our love for the Father

¹⁵ Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15

- A simple 'Do' and 'Don't':
- Do love the WORD
- Don't love the WORLD

Our love for the Father

- 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.*
- 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.*

1 John 5:2-3

Our love for the Father

⁶ And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

2 John 6

- God's walk with man
 - From Eden to the New Jerusalem

Our love for the Father

³¹ But that the world may know that I love the Father;
and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I
do

John 14:31

- Jesus' love for the Father was demonstrated by His obedience
- Put simply, love is seen by action

Our love for the Father

- *“God's love for us is un-coerced and so freely given that it does not demand a response.*
- *But so freely is it given that it creates freedom in the recipient, so that our response is not one of obligation or duty, nor the returning of a favour, but un-coerced love.”*

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