Mat 106

Divine Love never fails

Turn to 1Corinthians chapter 13.

In our recent study about love which stems from the study in Matthew chapter 10 with the focus on verse 37 where our Lord clearly states you should love Him (personally) more than your own family.

We have learned that impersonal and personal love have greater meaning and a deeper connection than what we may have first thought.

/Mat 10:37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not **worthy** (*axios*) of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not **worthy** of Me.

Not a loss of salvation! Worthy Meaning having significance\

AXE-E-US – This Greek adjective was often used for measurements and weights, referring to something of value lesser or greater.

It is being used toward the Bel as a value in the sense that the Bel is useless in the plan of God.

REPEAT

Again, by today’s standards Jesus would offend many people by His statement in Matthew 10:37.

What His statement says is that a Bel who refuses to have an intimate love relationship with Him becomes useless in the plan of God.

Meaning there are winners & loser in the realm of born again Bels.

Not everyone gets a trophy folks!

Now in 1Corinthians chapter 13 which many people use as wedding vows not realizing there is much more to these verses.

What the Apostle Paul was teaching on was the gifts given by God…in fact Paul was warning against using the limited gift of tongues so it wasn’t set up as a marriage vow chapter.

But it has great meaning and is often used for marriage vows.

Now we understand the meaning of divine love which we know involves thinking and is always under the power of the HS- that is what is in view here.

/1Cor 13:4 **Love** (*agape’*) is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant,\

[1Co 13:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/5/s_1075005) does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered,*

[1Co 13:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/6/s_1075006) does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

[1Co 13:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/7/s_1075007) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1Cor 13:8 Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away.

Let’s look at the words used in 1Corinthians chapter 13 because it is clear they many, revolve around negative emotions…emotions that destroy relationships not build them up.

Look what the wise King Solomon wrote about concerning jealousy;

/Sng 8:6 Put me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death, **jealousy** is as severe as Sheol; Its flashes are flashes of fire,
The *very* flame of the LORD.\

Jealousy is just as strong as love but called out as being so severe it is related to the grave or the place of death.

In the OT - Numbers chapter 5 there was a special offering just for jealousy because it was such a destructive sin.

/Jealousy is a vicious sin that corrupts the soul of that person and leaves them broken, insecure and bitter. In the worst-case scenario it leads to criminal insanity. In the best case scenario, it will alter that person’s personality and often it will lead to depression or isolation.\

It will break the human spirit of that person and this goes for the Bel who does not remove this sin from their life.

They will change from within… they will remain in a state of grieving the HS that will change who they are after a period of time.

The Bel can’t be operating in divine love and have jealousy flaring up in their daily life.

It is the polar opposite of God’s divine love and it is one of the most destructive sins…when you harbor jealousy over love relationships or what someone else has that you do not have, it will break your spiritual walk into pieces if you do not get rid of it.

/Any form of arrogance or over-zealous pride will push that divine love from the Bel’s life and they will be walking in the flesh and become very susceptible to cosmic viewpoint as well as deceptive concepts about self…*better than others or less than others*.\

REPEAT & ELABORATE

Remember having a godly pride or confidence is a good thing.

Don’t miss that principle, there is a difference between human pride or cockiness and having confidence in who and what God has made you to be.

But the sin of arrogance has many tentacles so be very aware of that.

Arrogance has many little evil relatives…judging, gossip, lying, pettiness & cheating… just to name few.

That is why Paul tells us:

/[1Co 13:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/5/s_1075005) (divine love) does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered,*

A tender heart toward others and a forgiving nature are signs that God’s divine love (fruit of spirit) are working in a Bel.\

[1Co 13:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/6/s_1075006) does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

It rejoices in TRUTH! Because The Bel knows truth is singular and comes from the mind of Christ (BD).

You are either walking by means of the HS or you are in your flesh. You can’t be in the new nature and OSN at the same time. The Bel who lives in the new man more than the old man will display these positive qualities in their lives.

Not every day…we all stumble along the way but the majority of the time.

/[1Co 13:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/7/s_1075007) (divine love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

This positive attitude is drawn from Bible Doctrine circulating in the soul structure. We can’t have this type of positive endurance relying on the flesh.\

Your relationships will flourish when the people you are close to realize that you have a spirit of unity and forgiveness and that you will stand by them even when they fail.

Instead of thinking the worst…you are a person who believes the best first.

When they see that you are genuine in your belief in them and that even on the ugly days you still will pick up that phone the very next day and hear them out.

Loving someone warts and all… is a gift you give them and it will set them free to really love you.

Think about how much garbage in your soul and negativity you had toward God throughout your life. We fail TLJC all the time yet He forgives us and loves us.

You reflect TLJC when you are filled with the HS and apply divine love toward others…especially when they fail you!

/One of the main reasons it becomes so easy for a Bel to fall in love with Christ is the Bel recognizes their failures and flawed condition and that none of that interrupts the Love that He has for us.\

This is why I taught on the fact that as a Bel who has been saved for a year or more…if you are still struggling with falling in love with TLJC you may want to check your salvation.

ELABORATE

In fact, the more you grow and study His word the more the love will flow over you toward Him.

DIVINE LOVE WILL NOT FAIL YOU!

/1Cor 13:8 **Love never fails**; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away.

This divine love never fails YOU!\

In verse 10 - Paul goes on to say when the perfect comes the partial will be done away with…the perfect means the perfect, completed canon of scripture.

But our study is the focus on LOVE NEVER FAILS!

Many Bels will see this lesson and say yeah right Pastor Rick ….love failed me.

I’m divorced or someone I loved mistreated me.

It says love never fails you Royal Family.

/Divine love (impersonal, unconditional love) - will keep you strong, it will propel you forward in the plan of God. Your spiritual walk can influence others but it can’t change others, because they have to operate inside God’s plan as well. We all have our own personal responsibility to grow in God’s plan.\

This becomes the issue when we talk about broken friendships…divorce and those we have attempted to love but they still reject us…mistreat us or manipulate us.

Its not on you…it’s on them!

Divine Love never fails the Bel who applies BD to their relationships.

/Bels need to stop thinking that their spiritual growth and positive steps forward in God’s plan will automatically bring all their loved ones up a notch toward spiritual maturity. The positive Bel will probably have a profound effect on many in their periphery but there is no guarantee of salvation or spiritual growth for those we have intimacy with.\

Equal privilege and equal opportunity in the plan of God…we all hear the gospel and become aware of TLJC and we all have 24 hours in a day…so really there are no excuses about salvation or spiritual growth.

/2Cor 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Rom 14:12 So then **each one of us will give an account of himself** to God.\

The Apostle Paul is speaking to born again Bels in both scriptures!

After the Rapture comes the Bema Seat Judgement of Christ….where all the deeds and the time you spent after salvation come under scrutiny.

This is where that question gets answered in front of Christ….all CA Bels face this…what did you do with the time I gave you?

After salvation what did you do in the power of the HS? Is it deed or works in the flesh to be burned up like wood, hay & stubble?

Or does it shine under the divine light and reap rewards and blessings and crowns for all of eternity?

We all have to answer for ourselves.

Now you may have great influence and be a person who is a soul winner but you do not make someone come to faith in Christ or reach SM by your efforts and your personal growth…they have to have the right motivation deep in their soul.

As we get ready to wrap up this 3 part series on the love that the Bel is called to have in order to move forward in plan of God.

We touch back into Matthew chapter 10 and have a greater understanding of what TLJC was saying.

/Mat 10:37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

The Lord is pointing out that the priority of love relationships starts with Him first. The value or strength of the Bel in God’s plan is dependent on intimate love for Christ first.\

This is really what TLJC is trying to wake these men up to…not to discard their families.

He actually wants those other earthly relationships to grow stronger but they can not have lasting strength or any value inside the plan of God without Him.

/Divine love is a foundation and framework of thinking Bible Doctrine. Once that foundation/framework is solid and continually nurtured, personal love (affection/emotion) is released to respond to people and situations in a proper fashion with accurate timing.\

It is not emotional whirlwinds that come and go with no control over itself.

The strength and harness of that personal love is always BD in the Bel’s soul. REPEAT

/Divine love is only achieved from the Bel who understands the filling power of the Holy Spirit and applies the word of God in their daily lives. Because it is rooted in thought from Bible Doctrine this takes intimacy with the Lord which leads the Bel on a journey of spiritual growth that produces fruit.\

Intimacy in the sense of a loving relationship with TLJC.

This love relationship is reflecting that of a marriage as we covered last lesson…now obviously there are some differences but the concept of fidelity and intimacy and priority are all the same.

In other words, the new Bel may not fully grasp all the power and applications of divine love because they need some time to grow and fall in love with the mind of Christ.

The sad part is when you have born again Bels who have 5 or 10 years of being a Christian under their belt and they still don’t understand the filling power of the HS and divine love.

/Heb 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, **you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles** of the oracles of God, and you have come to need **milk and not solid food**.\

This scripture probably written by Luke or Paul is hard to swallow for some Bels and it needs to be a wake up call for many….it has that shock value that TLJC used in Matthew chapter 10.

/Heb 5:13 For everyone who partakes **only of milk** is not accustomed to **the** **word** of righteousness, for **he is an infant.\**

There are times both TLJC & the Apostles came across very harsh in their teachings and it was done on purpose.

This wasn’t said to be gentle and to tell Bels or for that matter Unbels ;

Don’t worry about it, take your time….go ahead and live like hell….its no big deal you got plenty of time later for all this God stuff.

The serious nature of the battle we are called to fight…the limited time we have here in our human bodies & the cosmic attacks that surround us all account for the need for smash mouth teaching at times. REPEAT!!

ELABORATE- Bels who come and go…hot and cold…holidays and relationship problems they are at church other than that you never see them.

PERSONALITY CONFLICTS AT CHURCH

CLICKS & NONSENSE…excuses to stay away.

/1Pet 2:1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, 2 like newborn babies, **long for the pure milk of the word**, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,\

You don’t grow outside of what you are doing right now….studying the word… absorbing truth and later walking in your new nature and applying what you learn.

Yes, you will fall and fail…so what!!! Rebound back…keep fighting the good fight!

/1Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be **steadfast, immovable**, always **abounding** (*perisseuō*) in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not *in* vain in the Lord.\

PERRY-SUE-OH keep moving…keep increasing, continue in forward motion, to excel or exceed (abundance).

If you fall….fall forward… keep the forward motion!

You know the one thing that God does not promise the Bel right now in time, in these human bodies….more time.

Time is a greater currency then many people fully understand.

We are allowed only a certain amount even though in eternity we live forever…right now in these flesh and blood vessels we sometimes get 100 years.

After the flood the earth was altered and mankind was not living hundreds of years but closer to 100 years.

The earth after the flood was dramatically different than it was before it. The differences included the altering of the climate, atmospheric changes, changes in the hydro-logic cycle, geologic features, a significant increase in harmful radiation reaching ground level, man's dietary habits were changed and the types of plants available changed.

These and many other factors led to man's much shorter lifespans.

/God has set mankind’s time limits in eternity past. We are never promised more time in this human form no matter how much we grow up spiritually. God may extend a positive Bel’s life by a few years but TIME becomes something of great value to the human race.\

Therefore, harsh statements and difficult lessons find a place in scripture because we are stubborn creatures due to the OSN hard at work in our DNA.

/Psa 90:12 So **teach us to number our days**, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom.

Psa 39:4 “LORD, **make me to know my end** and what is **the extent of my days**;
Let me know how **transient** I am.\

TRANSIENT fleeting.

That Hebrew adjective HAD-DALE means fleeting or frail.

You don’t get today back Royal Family… it will be deposited in an eternal bank account forever only to be viewed again perhaps during that Bema Seat Judgement.

/Eph 5:16 **making the most of your time**, because **the days are evil**. 17 So then do not be foolish, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**.\