

**LAYMAN'S SCHOOL OF TRAINING**  
**HOLE 2 - ADVANCED BIBLE STUDY SEMINAR**  
**LECTURE 7 - KNOWING GOD'S LOVE AND SHOWING IT**

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**1. In this failing world of ours is there anything that is guaranteed to be "failure-proof"?**

Yes, the love of God properly applied and practiced has God's 100% guarantee to never fail.

**1 Cor 13:8a** "LOVE NEVER FAILS..."

So the one thing Christians should learn, **practice and cultivate** in every situation of life, is to walk in the overcoming and miraculous realm of God's love.

**2. How can I walk in this supernatural realm of God's love?**

i) In order to walk in the love realm effectively **faith** must be exercised.

**Gal 5:6b** (NASB) "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but **faith working through love.**"

**6b** (Moffatt) "...but only **faith active in love.**"

**6b** (Goodspeed) "...but only **faith acting through love.**"

Faith works through love but we must also understand that we need to **LOVE BY FAITH.**

Everything we receive from God and do for God effectively is done by faith.

**Faith lifts us out of the natural realm into the supernatural realm.**

**Faith is what we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths.**

**Rom 5:5** (NASB) "and hope does not disappoint, because the **love of God HAS BEEN poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit** who was given to us."

**5** (Moffatt) "...since **God's love floods our hearts through the Holy Spirit...**"

We are born of the Spirit of God, who is love, and therefore we are born of love. **We have the CAPACITY to love as God loves** because we are born of Him.

**ILLUSTRATION:** A son has the **capacity of strength** that his **father** has, but will only attain it when his **muscles are fully developed.**

**John 17:26b** (NASB) "...that the **love wherewith Thou** (the Father) **didst love Me** (Jesus) **may be in them and I in them.**"

ii) **2 things we must do:-**

a) Drink of the Holy Spirit daily.

**Jude 20-21** (Phillips) "But you beloved, build yourselves up on the foundation of your most holy faith and **by praying through the Holy Spirit**

**21 keep yourselves within the love of God."**

b) **CHOOSE to walk in love** in every situation and **by faith confess** that God's love flows through you even to the unlovely, (even to Brother Sandpaper ie. the guy who has the gift to always rub you up the wrong way.)

**3. What do I do when people are unlovely towards me?**

You have a **CHOICE** to either walk in love or retaliate.

If you do not choose the path of love, then **satan will take advantage of you at every turn.**

**Mat 5:39** (NASB) "But I say to you, do not resist him who is evil; but whoever slaps you on your right

*cheek, turn to him the other also."*

God wants us to **retaliate in His love by faith**, instead of retaliating with the arm of flesh. By so doing, His power and **love will be perfected in us** to the point where we will be **PROTECTED all the time**.

His motive is not for us to get beaten up but to develop His love so completely within us that the enemy cannot hit you back.

**John 10:39** (NASB) *"Therefore they were seeking again to **seize Him**, and **He eluded their grasp.**"*

Jesus walked so powerfully in love that His **enemies** who wanted to stone Him **could not touch Him**.

**John 18:4-6,11** (NASB) *"Jesus therefore, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, went forth, and said to them, 'Whom do you seek?'*

**5** *They answered Him, 'Jesus the Nazarene.' He said to them, 'I am He.' And Judas also who was betraying Him, was standing with them.*

**6** *When therefore He said to them, 'I am He' **they drew back, and fell to the ground.***

**11** *Jesus therefore said to Peter, 'Put the sword into the sheath; **the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?'** "*

They **could not even arrest Him** until He submitted His life into their hands by His words.

**2 Cor 10:3-4** (NASB) *"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not **war according to the flesh,***

**4** *for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but **divinely powerful** for the **destruction of fortresses.** "*

#### 4. What are the "benefits" of walking in love?

##### i) Victory over satan.

**1 John 5:18** (NASB) *"We know that no-one who is born of God sins; but **He (Jesus) who was born of God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him.**"*

We are born of God and commanded to walk in love. **A step out of love is a step into sin.**

When we are walking in love we can laugh at the devil for he cannot touch us. God has a **spiritual capsule** that surrounds us to protect us. This **capsule comes into effect** when we **walk in faith that works through love.**

**Eph 6:16** (NASB) *"In addition to all, taking up the **shield of faith**, with which you will be able to **extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one**" (and faith works through love).*

##### ii) Freedom from fear.

**1 John 4:18** (NASB) *"There is **no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear**, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love."*

##### iii) A strong and stable Christian walk.

**1 John 2:10** (NASB) *"The one who loves his brother abides in the light and there is **no cause for stumbling in him.**"*

#### 5. How can I develop faith in God's love?

The same way you develop faith in every other area of life.

**Rom 10:17** (NASB) *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."*

i) **Give the word of God first place in your life and do not be moved by feelings.** To develop faith in God's

love you have to learn what the word says about love.

**Prov 4:20-21 (NASB)** *"My son, **give attention to my words**; Incline your ear to my sayings.*

**21** *Do not let them depart from your sight; keep them in the midst of your heart."*

ii) **Meditate on the scriptures concerning God's love.** Meditation develops the capacity for faith and you will then realize the power that God's love can have in your life.

**Jos 1:8 (NASB)** *"This book of the law shall not depart from your **mouth**, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."*

iii) **Act on the word concerning the love of God.**

**James 1:22 (NASB)** *"But prove yourselves **doers of the word**, and not merely hearers who delude themselves."*

**1 John 4:11,12 (NASB)** *"Beloved, if God so loved us, **we also ought to love one another**.*

**12** *No one has beheld God at any time; **if we love one another**, God abides in us, and **His love is perfected in us."***

By practicing this love on one another the love of God is perfected in us.

iv) **Decide to live the love life. Make the QUALITY DECISION to live by love.**

A **QUALITY DECISION** is one from which there is **no retreat**. When the pressures come against us we won't have to stop and think how we should react. We will immediately react in love.

The phrase **I will** is used 1441 times in the bible. Your free will is a gift from God.

Choose to yield your will to fulfil God's plan for your life. Never allow satan or temptation to control your will.

## 6. Can we be rooted and grounded in love?

**Eph 3:16-19 (NASB)** *"...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man;*

**17** *so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, **being rooted and grounded in love**,*

**18** *may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the **breadth and length and height and depth**,*

**19** *and to **know the love of Christ**, which surpasses knowledge, that you may be **filled up to all the fullness of God."***

The Apostle Paul prays that they would be rooted and grounded in God's love. **Love is the soil** in which our Christian lives can grow and flourish. If we continue to walk out of love we shrivel up like a plant out of the earth.

Paul had a revelation of being totally immersed in God's love. **God's love is 4 dimensional.**

**1 John 4:8b (NASB)** *"...God is love"*

When you are filled with God you are filled with love. (Read **Eph 3:19** again)

**Mark 14:15 (NASB)** *"And these are the ones who are beside the road where the **word is sown**; and **when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them."***

Satan's prime objective is to get the seed of the Word out of our hearts - in this case the seed of love.

## 7. I have read about the love of God but don't have it operating in my life. What can I do?

**The Word of God is not subject to our failures. It is true regardless of circumstances.** The speed with which the word works and the progress of your spiritual growth are in **DIRECT PROPORTION** to the amount of time you spend studying and meditating in the Word. There is no shortcut.

**John 15:7-8 (NASB)** *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you.*

**8** *By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples."*

YOU NEED TO CONFESS THE LOVE CHAPTER OVER YOUR LIFE EVERYDAY.

**1 Cor 13:4-8 (NASB)** *"Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous, (Phillips) it neither is anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of it's own importance.*

**5 (Moffat)** *Love is never rude, never selfish, (NEB) is not quick to take offence. Love keeps no score of wrongs,*

**6** *does not gloat over other men's sins, (Weymouth) but joyfully sides with the truth.*

**7** *Love can overlook faults, (Amp) is ever ready to believe the best of every person, (Moffat) is always hopeful and (Williams) gives us power to endure everything.*

**8 (NASB)** *Love never fails."*

**Two spiritual exercises:-**

i) Read the above verses again **putting GOD in LOVE'S place** and we will receive an **insight into His nature**. We can do this for God is love.

ii) As believers we are born of God or born of Love, and the bible says **we are to imitate God (Eph 5:1)**.

So read the above verses again **in the first person** and **make it your daily confession of faith to perfect the love of God in your life**.

## **8. Does the bible give some practical advice on walking in love?**

Yes, in **Eph 4:25** through to **Eph 5:2** Paul shoots straight from the heart as it were, instructing us on how to keep walking in God's love. We are to imitate (mimic the walk, speech, action and manner of life of) God and walk in the sacrificial love of Christ as demonstrated on Calvary. Study the following scripture at home.

**Eph 4:25-32,5:1-2 (NASB)** *"Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth, each one of you, with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.*

**26** *Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,*

**27** *and do not give the devil an opportunity.*

**28** *Let him who steals steal no longer; but rather let him labor, performing with his own hands what is good, in order that he may have something to share with him who has need.*

**29** *Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear.*

**30** *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

**31** *Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.*

**32** *And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*

**1** *Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;*

**2** *and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma."*

## **9. Where does forgiveness fit into the love walk?**

Forgiveness plays a vital role in living the love life.

**Mark 11:25-26 (NASB)** "And whenever you stand praying, **forgive**, if you have **anything against anyone**; so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your transgressions.

**26 But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions."**

Jesus makes the act of forgiveness an integral part of the faith life (**Mark 11:22-24**) which in turn is an integral part of the love life.

**Mat 18:21-22 (NASB)** "Then Peter came and said to Him, 'Lord, **how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?**'

**22 Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to **seventy times seven.**' "**

Jesus told Peter that he needed to **forgive seventy times seven** and what applies to Peter applies to us as well.

**Mat 18:32-35 (NASB)** "Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I **forgave** you all that debt because you entreated (begged) me.

**33 Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, even as I had mercy on you?**

**34 And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.**

**35 'So shall My heavenly Father also do to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.'** "

Here we see that the man who was forgiven much and was **not prepared to forgive** his brother was **handed over to the tormentors**. Through unforgiveness **YOU PLACE YOURSELF** directly in satan's hands. It is the little debts we do not forgive that gives satan place in our lives. **Unforgiveness stops God's power and ability** from flowing in and through your life.

If unforgiveness is not dealt with it will lead to **STRIFE**. Strife is like **deadly poison** that is born in the mind of satan and will **paralyse the body of Christ** from operating in the power of God. We need to take **serious steps against strife** like we would against a **plague of sickness** and not allow it to reach **epidemic proportions**.

**James 3:16 (KJV)** "For where envying and **strife** is, there is confusion (or disorder - NASB) and every evil work."

## 10. How can I make the decision to walk in love?

We need to realize that **to walk in love is a COMMANDMENT** and not **like it or leave it** proposition.

**DEFINITION:** The love commandment is an order from God, from which there is **no retreat** and about which there is **no choice**.

**John 13:34-35 (NASB)** "A **new commandment** I give to you, that **you love one another**, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

**35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. "**

**1 John 3:23 (NASB)** "And this is **His commandment** that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and that **we love one another**, just as He commanded us. "

**Rom 13:8,10 (NASB)** "Owe nothing to anyone except to **love one another**; for he who loves his neighbour has fulfilled the law.

**10 (NASB)** Love does no wrong to a neighbor; **love therefore is the fulfillment of the law."**

**James 2:8 (NASB)** "If, however, you are fulfilling the **royal law**, according to the Scripture, '**you shall love your neighbour as yourself**, you are doing well.' "

James calls walking in love the **royal law** - the law of kings. Walking in love gives you kingly freedom and

authority.

God made it a **command** so that it will **put a bit in our mouths**; so that we will love not only when we feel like loving, but also when we have to love by faith.

Your WILL determines how developed you become in love.

Your WILL determines your success or failure. We don't need much **will power** to play our favorite sport. However, we do need to exercise our **will power** to cut the grass. Why was one easy and one difficult. Your **will** made the difference. It actually **controlled your body and your mind**.

When you make a **quality decision of your will** that you are **going to walk in the love of God** because it is His commandment to you, then **God's power will flood your Spirit**, your mind and your body and you will be on your way to spiritual victory in living the love life.

## 11. See Addendum A

### HOMework FOR LECTURE 7

1. Memorize **Romans 5:5** in point 2 of this lecture.
2. This counts for 10% towards your test results.
3. Confess **1 Cor 13:4-8** from your notes as found in point 7 every day during your S.T.
4. As you pray in tongues every day, thank God that He is re-filling you with His love.
5. Make the **quality decision** to walk in the spiritual realm of love and practice it each day, not slipping back into the realm where you react from your lower fleshly nature.
6. Spend 10 minutes a day meditating on your notes so that these truths can register on your spirit man and as preparation for a true or false test next week.