



- Jesus taught that the true meaning of our lives rests in one word: _____. Matthew 22:36-40
- *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."* **John 13:35**
- Love cannot be learned in _____.
1 Thessalonians 3:12

Three important truths about love:

First, loving others is the _____ important part of your life. Why is this?

- A. Because life without love is really _____.
1 Corinthians 13:1-3
- After learning to love God (worship), learning to love others is what your _____ is all about.
 - _____ is the great enemy of relationships.
 - Life minus love equals _____.
- B. Because love will last _____. 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a
- Love leaves a legacy.
 - In our final moments, we realize that relationships are what life is all about. Wisdom is learning that truth _____ rather than later.

Second, loving others is best expressed through the giving of your _____.

- Relationships take time and effort, and the best way to spell love is ____-____-____-____.
- The very essence of love is _____ of yourself.
- *"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."* **John 15:12-13**

Third, loving others should be done _____.

- *"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"* **1 John 3:16-17**

The best use of life is _____.

The best expression of love is _____.

The best time to love is _____.

Good Stewards of His Grace 1 Peter 4:7-16

Introduction:

1. If we are saved, we have received the gift of God's grace. Paul tells us that this grace from God only comes through Jesus Christ.
1 Corinthians 1:4
2. Peter said that as we have received this gift of grace, we should minister the same one to another. vs. 10
3. I am to minister grace to you and you are to minister grace to me. When we do this, it makes us good stewards of His manifold grace.
4. As God's grace has abounded **to** me, it should abound **through** me in my relationship with others.
5. Hebrews 13:9 states that *"It is a good thing that the heart be established with grace."*
6. What does my life look like when my heart is established with grace?
What does my life look like when I am ministering grace to others?

My life is characterized by spiritual _____ . vs. 7

1. I am sober (serious) minded about the work of God, and therefore I possess a vibrant and active prayer life for others.
2. It is much easier to minister grace to you if I am _____ for you fervently.
3. Too many church leaders today are occupied with the latest church growth fads or programs. They are carried from one to another. Here is what should occupy us: ministering the grace of God one to another.
Hebrews 13:9

My life is characterized by gracious _____. vs. 8-9

1. My _____ should minister grace to others, pure and simple.
Ephesians 4:29

2. If my mouth ministers condemnation, I lack grace, and the problem is with me, not the other person.
3. Love is a choice, and when we open up our hearts and choose to love others, we choose to pass over and forgive things that we could otherwise make an issue of. vs. 8
4. As I understand God's amazing grace to me, I can't help but minister it to you.
 - Whenever people are very critical and judgmental of others, guaranteed, they do not live in an understanding or appreciation of God's grace in their own life.
5. The Bible says about Jesus that people "*wondered at the gracious words that proceeded out of his mouth.*" Luke 4:22

My life is characterized by an appreciation of those who are _____ than me. vs. 11

1. When I am full of _____, I despise those that are different than me. When I am full of grace, I thank God that others are different than me.
2. It is this diversity that makes the body of Christ function in an effective and powerful way. 1 Corinthians 12:14-27
3. There will be people in the body that we don't particularly click with, but we need to praise God for this, and realize that God may use them in a way that He can't use us.

My life is characterized by spiritual _____.
vs. 12-16

1. When trials come in the life of a believer, many times people will get angry and bitter. A leader for God doesn't do this.
2. If our heart is established with grace, even during difficult times, we are consumed with ministering His grace to others.

3. As we live in an appreciation of His grace, we glorify God even through suffering and trials.

In Conclusion:

1. Romans 5:20 states that "*where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.*" You can't out-sin God's grace.
2. When we are filled with God's grace, this is the attitude we have towards others: "You can't cause me to quit loving you. The more you sin, the more I will seek to love you, pray for you, and minister God's grace to you."
3. "The more you may sin against me, the more I will love you and minister the grace of Christ to you."