## Faith Alive Church

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## **LOVES FULLNESS**

In the Gospels of Matthew 22, Mark 12, and Luke 10 the Great Commandments are presented by lesus:

You must *love* the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all, your mind.'\* 38 This, is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'\* 40 All the other commandments and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments. "To love God in this way is to fulfill completely all the commandments regarding one's "vertical" relationship. Paul

encourages Timothy and the Church's this way in 1Timothy 1: 5 The purpose of my instruction is that ALL Christians would be *filled* with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and sincere faith.

## Paul says that Christians are to be filled with love; and then gives us three sources of real love:

- 1. The first way to be filled with love is a pure Heart. In Matthew 5:8, Jesus said, "God blesses those whose hearts are pure." A pure heart is devoted to God and free from 'guilt and corruption'. God purifies us, but there is action we must take to keep morally fit; such as a daily application of God's word. The application of God's Word has a purifying effect on our heart and, which enables us to love freely.
- 2. <u>The second way to be filled with love</u> is a **clean conscience**. Acts 23:1 When Paul was brought before the Sanhedrin; he said; My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all *good conscience*, to this day.
- 3. In order to <u>love properly</u>, our *conscience* must be clear. <u>First</u>, it must be clean from un-confessed sin so that guilt doesn't hinder us. <u>Second</u>, our motives must be free from pride and personal gain, so we can love openly.
- 4. The third way to be filled with love is with sincere faith. When we attempt to love others without sincere faith in Christ, our efforts to minister become hollow and self-serving. Sincere faith enables us to love genuinely.

1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on your guard, stand firm in *the faith*; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything *in love*. **So** we can see how vital it is to maintain the Gospels truth of; 'God So *Loved* the World' in ALL our teachings.

Paul focused on the 'truth and *love*' of the gospel; as he wrote in Romans 5:8-9 "But God <u>demonstrates</u> His *own love* toward us, in that while we were still **sinners**, Christ *died* for us. <u>Much *more then*</u>, having now been justified by His blood, we shall *be saved* from the wrath of God through Him."

While we were *still sinners*—these are amazing words. God sent Jesus Christ to die for us, not because we were good enough, but just because he *loved us*. Whenever you feel uncertain about God's love for you, remember that he *loved you* even before you turned to him.

+ Christ did *not die* so that we could be <u>made lovable</u>; Christ died because God already *loved us* and wanted to *bring us* close to himself. So you can expect God to do the things He does for you, simply because He *loves you*.