

I am Love's Bridge

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2-8-26

I am Love's Bridge

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:14 KJV *For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:*

2 Corinthians 5:14 NLT *Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. ¹⁵ He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶ So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! ¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

Introduction: This year's theme is "I am God's Bridge!" We identified at our [New Beginnings Breakfast](#) that we must be anchored in Jesus Christ and build with His correct materials for our bridge building to effectively connect to another. Definitions are critical for us to be His Bridge from Him to others and from us to others. Today we are Love's Bridge!

1. God is Love giving Jesus as His Bridge to man
2. God's Love manifests through you to others

1. God is Love giving Jesus as His Bridge to man

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

- A. God gave believers faith to believe what Jesus did for them and with them in Jesus' Death, Burial and Resurrection
 - Unbelievers do not have faith

2 Thessalonians 3:2 *And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: **for all men have not faith***

- Paul writing to believers in Rome about their faith

Romans 12:3 *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as **God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.***

- Every believer's faith is the same as Jesus' Faith

Galatians 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

- Every believer has miracle working faith

Matthew 17:20 *And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, **If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.***

- Every believer's faith can grow and love increase

2 Thessalonians 1:3 NIV *We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, **because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.***

- B. God gave us His Word that reveals Jesus in us
 - The Word is God

John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

- His promises make us a partaker of God's nature

2 Peter 1:4 NKJV *by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

2. God's Love manifests through you to others

1 John 4:9 *In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.* ¹⁰ *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son [to be] the propitiation (to appease God) for our sins.* ¹¹ *Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.* ¹² *No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.* ¹³ *Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us*

A. We fearlessly proclaim His Good News

1 John 4:14 *And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son [to be] the Saviour of the world.* ¹⁵ *Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.* ¹⁶ *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.* ¹⁷ *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world.* 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.* ¹⁹ *We love him, because he first loved us.*

- The Gospel is the Power of God

Romans 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

Romans 10:17 NKJV *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Galatians 5:6 *For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but **faith which worketh by love.***

B. Proclaim I am God's Love Defined

Romans 5:5 NKJV *Now hope does not disappoint, because **the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.***

1 Corinthians 13:4 NLT *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.---**Love never fails - KJV***

PROCLAIM ALOUD! 1 John 4:17b - As He is so am I in this world!

I am patient and kind

I am not jealous or boastful or proud or rude

I don't demand my own way

I am not irritable

I do not keep a record of being wronged

I do not rejoice about injustice but rejoice whenever the truth wins out

I never give up

I never lose faith

I am always hopeful

I endure through every circumstance

I never fail

Worship God through your First-Fruits, Tithes, Sacrifices, and Offerings

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son,*

Luke 10:29-37 (Lawyer, Priest and Levite) ³³ *But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and **when he saw him, he had compassion on him,*** ³⁴ ***And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.*** ³⁵ ***And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.*** ³⁶ *Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?* ³⁷ *And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.*