

It's All About Love...

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." ~ 1 John 4:7 (NKJV)

All across America the month of February is commonly known as the season in which we celebrate Valentine's Day and speak about "LOVE." We hear songs about it, we purchase heart-shaped boxes of sweets to give to friends and family as a means of expressing our affection towards them, we give dozens of red roses and buy and make a variety of other items as a means of celebration. However throughout the rest of the year, we often use the word "LOVE" so casually that we have become desensitized to its true meaning. To understand the true meaning of "LOVE," we must look to the true source of "LOVE" and that is the Word of God, which reveals to us in 1st John, Chapter 4, verses 7, 8 and 16 that **"God is Love."** We see here that true, genuine "LOVE" is not some dormant, insignificant word but it is alive, powerful and active. We see LOVE's true meaning manifested by God through His divine action to clothe Himself in human flesh and enter the world through His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. We know this to be "LOVE" in action because John 3:16 tells us, "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." God is a giver and His motive for being such is "LOVE" because that's who He is!

As Christian women of faith, we should be loving givers of our time, money, encouragement, comfort, fellowship, prayers, service and testimonies. The sharing of our faith in God is one of the most dynamic examples of genuine "LOVE" in action. When we are given the opportunity to offer the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him for the parting of their sins, everyone involved is blessed by the experience of witnessing the agape "LOVE" of God. Take a moment to reflect back to when you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and how it transformed your life with glorious hope, peace and assurance beyond measure, 2 Corinthians 5:17.

I encourage all of us, as sisters in Christ, to exhibit a lifestyle whereby we take every advantage to actively share and seize opportunities to show godly "LOVE" not only during the month of February but throughout the entire year. Godly "LOVE" is not limited to a feeling but it takes action! The more we demonstrate true "LOVE," the more we are most like Christ to a world craving to experience the comforting presence of our heavenly Father. May we all be mindful that while we were yet sinners, God sent His only begotten Son to save us through the manifestation of His sacrificial "LOVE" for us on the cross.

"Heavenly Father, we are humbled and thankful for Your unconditional LOVE towards us. Empower us to advocate for social justice, human rights and peace imparting that LOVE for all You've chosen us to serve. In Jesus' name we pray and give thanks...Amen."

Joyfully Submitted,
Rev. Lillie Holman, Director
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"Agreed to Differ, Resolved to Love, United to Serve"