

MOVING IN LOVE, LOVE MOVING IN

John 21:15-17, John 15:9-14, 14:15-26

INTRO:

^ LOVING AND FEEDING, OR FEEDING FOR LOVE

In the passages of John 21:15-17 there is this constant questioning it seems. There are many reasons why perhaps. One is the necessity of the order of things in your life. You do not minister best to demonstrate your love for God. You minister out of the love relationship that is already established. In any relationship if your doing things to work up love, it is a pretty weak foundation. The flow of ministry, and any system of real love must first have the love established, and then all that flows out of that is motivated by the love that is already established. Yes, you can do things for the hope of approval, but what happens when you don't get, or don't feel the approval of the ones your working for? That is why it is no coincidence that Jesus is establishing the order of "love me first, then respond." What if marriages, church bodies, and the Church across the world operated like that? There is much more in this conversation, but we will come back to that later.

LOVE, THE MOTIVATION OF MOVING COMMANDMENT, JOHN 15:9-14

Notice the FLOW of this thing. *As the Father has loved me..(kathos) just as or according to the way the Father loves Jesus, SO HE loves us.* It is the flow of the Father into the life of Jesus AND THEN Jesus says, "YOU **continue** in this love of His." This flow is out of the very character of God HIMSELF. The LOVE CONNECTION is from the Father into the Life of Christ, from Christ into mine and then from mine into SHEEP!! Then He says in 15: 10, if you "keep my **commandments (precepts** in the original language), you shall ABIDE (stay, dwell, remain) in My love." Now the word KEEP here is not as hemmed in or imprisoned, but GUARDED, attended to, or protected. Remember, God does not HAVE LOVE He IS love. So the flow of this thing is the **very nature**, (not attribute) of God Himself. Literally, an aspect of His nature is imparted to me *if I dwell in the precepts, thoughts etc of Christ.*

LOVE, THE REIGN OF RESIDENCE, JOHN 14:23-26

Let's compare John 14:23 where Jesus says "if you love me you will keep my WORD (thoughts, mental faculty, or motive, **[all of the mind]** My Father will love him...and we shall make our ABODE (residence or mansion from verse 2 of 14) with him. Wow!! NOW, in **John 14:15** Jesus has said "if you love me you will keep my commandments. That word is , *entole*, or *precepts* , whereas the word in Verse **23** is different. It is a word LOGOS, which means *thoughts, motivations, reasoning, mental capacity*. This in 15:11 will result in joy, and then John 15:12 I am told that He is issuing a new commandment: **That we love one another as He has loved us.** SO, the flow of this is the nature of God, LOVE, goes from Him to Christ, to us, and then a COMMANDMENT THAT WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER IN THIS SAME MANNER. *This is not a nice idea, an option or a wish of Christ, it is a commandment, in order for Him to dwell in us, His body.*

LOVE, THE COUNSEL OF COMPANIONSHIP, JOHN 14:15-20

Notice in verse 16 the word pray. This word is not such as in the Lord's prayer, but is most often used as request, beseech, interrogate, etc. Jesus is saying, I am going to bat for you with my Source, the Father. What is Jesus requesting? Listen to the Message version of this: (Joh 14:16) I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. Other words for prayer are *worship*, this is request, urge. Do you get the sense of how important it is for Christ to make

sure you are not alone? This Holy Spirit is the answer, the Spirit of Truth. You need truth in your life. You have operated in lies perhaps for so long. Truth will set you free. In order to believe truth, you have to hear truth. Where do you find that? **John 17: Sanctify them through the truth, thy word is truth.** Again the **MESSAGE:** (Joh 17:17) Make them holy--consecrated--with the truth; Your word is consecrating truth.

What is consecrated? SET APART! Set apart from what? To what? *I believe it is from lies to truth.* From carnal thinking to spirit thinking. You have to be cleansed by truth. And what does Jesus say is truth? HIS WORD!! Let's go back to this idea of the Counsel. The word in **John 14:16** is that word Comforter. It is the word PARAKLETOS. It is *intercessor and consoler.* And this intercessor shall stay, continue, dwell in you, forever. Then in **John 14:18**, Jesus says, "I will not leave you comfortless." That is a different word than comforter. It is ORPHANOS. That is fatherless or like an orphan. It is only used twice in Scripture. Here, and in James 1:27 as "fatherless." Love will always make sure that *companionship and counsel* is available to you. That is how all relationships that claim love should work.

CONCLUSION:

LOVE, THE CLARITY OF COMMUNICATION **John 21:15-17**

I said we would come back to this. Yes, communication is still the most vital aspect of relationships. God to us, we to God, husband to wife, parent and child to each other, and believer to believer. There is no doubt that if you want to stop progress, stop or confuse the communication. There is a short story about this in Genesis 11:1-9. The people are going to build a tower that will reach the heavens and make a great name for themselves, but they are not doing this in the plan of God. So God confounds or confuses their language and they can no longer understand each other and end up a scattered and defeated people. That is what happens when communication is not clear. Things get messed up. That is why JESUS is so insistent on saying this "Do you love me" thing over and over. Actually, three times. Frustrating to Peter, but with a real point. Not just because Peter denied Him three times, but because Peter and Jesus were not talking about the same thing, plus Jesus was transforming the mind of Peter. "Listen to yourself Peter, get it clear, you are saying 'you love me,' and I will make sure we are on the same page about what this means." Do you love Him today? Do you? Do you? Then He will have control, and you will find great release, freedom and joy in that..... and you will never, ever be alone again. His mind, His heart, His residence, and you will MOVING IN LOVE, AND LOVE WILL MOVE IN.