



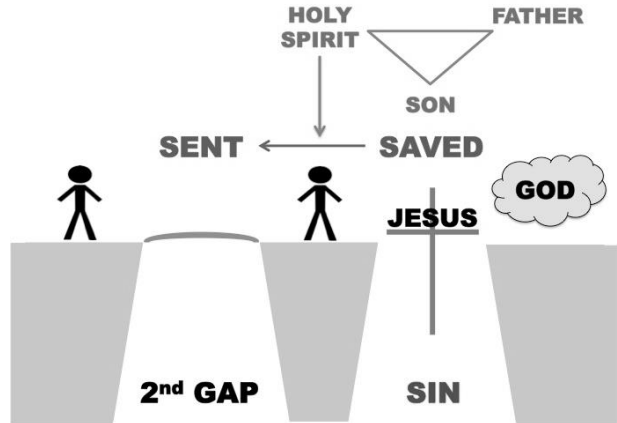
1 Corinthians 13:13

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Week #1

:: Love > .

:: It's not enough that our hearts are different, our CITIES should be as well.



Ephesians 5:1-2

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

4 Words for Love:

- :: EROS for sexual passion
- :: STORGE for family devotion
- :: PHILOS for friendship
- :: AGAPE for loving-kindness

AGAPE
[Greek] self-sacrificial, deep love.

:: 'Agape' love is an ACTION, not simply a feeling.

:: God sends us to GO.BE.LOVE.

LOVE > BONDAGE

:: The love of God OVERCOMES any bondage.

LOVE > APATHY

John 8:32 - "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

LOVE > DESPAIR

John 8:36 - "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

LOVE > INJUSTICE

Galatians 5:1 - "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."

:: FREEDOM is lost unless it's lived.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

:: Love gives freedom, not LICENSE.

1 Corinthians 9:19

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

"What did you do with my LOVE?"

So What?

:: WALK in the way of love.

Galatians 5:13-14 [MSG]

It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself.

That's an act of true freedom.

NOTES:

“Tell me how much you know of the sufferings of your fellow men, and I will tell you how much you have loved them.”
- Helmut Thielicke

How to start a relationship with Jesus:

- 1) Admit that you, like everyone else, are a sinner.
- 2) Ask for forgiveness from God.
- 3) Start a relationship with God by trusting in Jesus as Savior and Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus: I know I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do your will. I give all I am to all of you. In your name I pray, amen.

For Further Reflection:

- :: Take a moment to read 1 John 4:7-21.
- :: What are some of your initial observations from this passage?
- :: What does this passage say about God's love? Our love?
- :: What does it say about loving and knowing God?
- :: What happens when we truly love one another? v.12
- :: Discuss what makes it easier/harder to love other people.
- :: What happens when we confess Jesus as the Son of God? v.15-16
- :: Identify some ways people can demonstrate their love for God.
- :: Knowing the enemy uses fear, discuss how love drives it out. v.18
- :: Re-read verses 19-21. How do they connect/relate to the 2nd Gap diagram we've been unpacking together as a church family?
- :: Pastor Shawn said, "God sends us to Go.Be.Love." What does that mean? What are some practical ways we can do that?
- :: Identify 1 person you need to more intentionally love this week.



Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].
Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin), August 8 & 9, 2015

To listen to this sermon online go to www.heritageqc.com. Click **Media** then click **Current Series**.

Check out **Pastor Shawn's Blog** at:
www.liveSENT.today
<http://livesent.heritageqc.com>

