

Jesus said, "No one comes unto me unless the Father calls him

JOHN 6:44



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship & Communion Service

Sunday, August 4, 2024

SERVICES & CONTACTS

Worship Services In-person & Online 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BereanBarbados/live>

Sunday School In-person 9:30 - 10:15am

 **ZOOM** links provided

Midweek In-person & Online Service (Wednesday)

Noon & 7:30 pm | ZOOM links provided

Youth Service in-person 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp** 845 - 5752 or Tel: 426 - 4707

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org



What Does It Mean to Tell Your Spouse, I Love You

This article provides biblical definition to these words by rooting them in the model of God's love for His people.

The Question

It became obvious to Dr. Jay Adams that many of his married counselees did not understand the concept of love. Most had been influenced by their culture to respond to the question, "What does it mean to love your spouse?" with a feeling explanation. In his marvelous little pamphlet, "What to Do When Your Marriage Goes Sorrow,"¹ he answered this question by pointing out the example of God who "so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16). This love was acted out "In while we were yet sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Adams concludes that while feelings are important, love is primarily an action to benefit the other.

Have you ever asked yourself, "When I tell my spouse I Love you, what am I really saying?" I've asked this question of myself and others. In most instances, the answer in substance sounds a lot like a popular psychology book or the climax to a Hall Mark movie after "following your heart." I appreciate you, enjoy you and desire your company are the better answers that are proffered.

God's Model

If you are a Christian and operate from a biblical worldview, you should formulate your answer following God's model. Think about it. What are you saying with those three words—I love you? If you are following God's model, here is what you mean.

I Choose You!

Think about Abraham. God comes to him as a pagan and calls him to come out from his people to a land God has chosen for him and his progeny (Genesis 12 & 17). As we follow the journey of Israel throughout the Old Testament, we find this affirmation of God's choosing: "The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the Lord loved you..." (Deuteronomy 7:6-8).

When we turn to the New Testament from Jesus to Paul, we are repeatedly told that God chose us to be in a relationship with Him. Jesus said, "No one comes unto me unless the Father calls him (John 6:44). Paul says, "Just as He chose us in Him (Jesus Christ) Ephesians 1:3-4).

When I say I love you, I tell my wife, "I choose you above all else and everyone else."

I Am Committed to You.

The promise of Genesis 3:15. as one commentator observed, leaves no doubt, "No one reading the Bible can miss the connecting threads: God is doing something in the history of Israel that has its genesis in a promise given in Eden. God committed to Adam and Eve that she would bear a redeemer. God would provide a way of escape (I Corinthians 10:13)."²

Paul says, “While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Jesus promised, “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5).

When I tell my wife, “I love you,” I tell her, you can count on me. I am committed to you. I wear this ring that says to the rest of the world, “I am committed; don’t mess with me.”

I Delight in You!

The Psalmist captures the sentiment of God that permeates the Scripture. “For the Lord takes delight in his people” (Psalm 149:4). The other morning at breakfast, I turned and focused on my wife. She said, “What?” I said, “I am delighting you in. You are my companion, my lover, my coworker, my co-parent, my joy....” After almost 61 years, she is the delight of my life. Of course, I frustrate her sometimes, and she me, but those are quickly covered with love.

God tells his people frequently that He loves them (Malachi 1:1). We do well to follow that example. A study I read sometime back, probably from John Gottman, indicated that overcoming one negative interaction takes five positive affirmations. That is painstaking human research, but we should already know this if we read the Scriptures. Take time to review all the one-another passages addressed to the church, for example.

Implementation

Remember your wedding vows. Review them. Remember that you chose your spouse when you made that first covenant with God on your wedding day. Then with God as your witness, you committed to your spouse in that second covenant to keep yourself wholly for him/her, and in that third covenant, you exchanged rings as a witness to the watching world that you delight in your spouse, implying, “don’t mess with me I am committed.” Remember, these were your vows to God and your spouse in God’s presence. Tell your spouse, I love you, multiple times daily in words and actions, and in doing so, you follow the model of your God, imitating the depth of objective meaning of His words to you.

In an article in the Harvard Business Review, Jack Zenger and Joseph Folman reported an interesting study regarding team performance. Here is the bottom line.

....The average ratio for the highest-performing teams was 5.6 (nearly six positive comments for every negative one). The medium-performance teams averaged 1.9 (almost twice as many positive comments than negative ones.) But the average for the low-performing teams, at 0.36 to 1, was almost three negative comments for every positive one.³

Your marriage is a team charged with the Culture Mandate by God. This team’s bedrock is love—God’s to us and ours to each other. Each of us will contribute to keeping our team, in whatever circumstances we find ourselves, functioning at peak performance in every way if we are offering each other the affirmation, I love you, frequently and mean, I choose you, I am committed to you, and I delight in you, backed by congruent behavior and physical affection.

Howard Eyrich

Order of Service

COMMUNION SUNDAY

August 4, 2024 at 10:40am

THEME: "God keeps his promises, so we should trust him and give thanks to him."

1. Call to Worship – Pastor Paul Garnes
2. Announcements – Secretary Sis. Alicia Harewood
3. *Prayer of Adoration and Invocation* – Deacon Tyrone Lowe
4. **Hymn #16 – Immortal Invincible**
5. **Hymn #32 – I Sing the Mighty Power of God**
6. *Prayer of Confession and Assurance* – Deacon Jamar Watts
7. Scripture Reading
 - i. Exodus 2 NKJ – Sis. Frances Patrick
 - ii. Luke 7 ESV – Sis. Malivia Garnes
8. *Pastoral and Intercessory Prayer* – Pastor Paul
9. **Hymn #876 – Till the Storm Passes By**
10. *Prayer of Thanksgiving and Offertory* – Deacon Adrian Greenidge
11. Offertory
12. Special music – The Berean Choir
13. **Hymn #33 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God O great God**
14. Sermon – Pastor Paul Garnes
15. **Communion Hymn – Behold the Lamb**
16. **Communion**
17. **Hymn #35 (H of G) – O Great God**
18. Benediction – The Choir

ITEMS FOR PRAYER



- For Sis. Lucy and family for comfort as they grieve during this difficult period.
- Giving thanks for protection during the bad weather.
- Praying for full recovery of the islands devastated by hurricane Beryl.
- For those travelling to the IBYC conference and for its success.
- For our "Cowabunga" VBS, Aug 19-23
- For God's Word to be faithfully preached.
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- For the Berean Church, Dominica, Grenada and DR Congo.
- For the friends of Berean - The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

August Birthdays

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1st - Louise Moore | 14th - Steve Brewster | 24th - Monica Crawford |
| 3rd - Deirdre Boyce | - Esther Lord-Graham | - Orin Paul |
| - Audrey Lloyd | 18th - Jean Slocombe | 27th - Tyrone Lowe |
| 4th - Melissa Lucas | - Patricia Gaskin | 28th - Denis Maynard |
| 11th - Bernadette Holder | 21st - Celeste Porte | 30th - Cynthia Lindsay |
| 12th - Mitchell Sinckler | 23rd - Nicholas Williams | |

Anniversaries

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| 2nd - Truneal & Mikhail Kwang | 26th - Jamar & Leneisha Watts |
| - Owen & Jenny Thompson | 27th - Richard & Brigitte James |
| - Lorna & George Ward | Pearlita & Dacre Franklin |
| 11th - Stephen & Betty Mendes | |