

▼ Unfeigned Love.

▼ Introduction

- Romans 12:9-13 “9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

▼ Message

- ▼ This week while reading through Romans 12 I was struck hard by the first command in this passage (called Marks of the True Christian in my Bible.) My major thought? **WHAT IN THE HECK DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE GENUINE LOVE?**
 - See Matthew 15:7 where Jesus said, “**You hypocrites! (YOU ACTORS!!) Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.’**” LIPS vs HEART.
 - Unfeigned is the opposite of “feigned”, which is used in Luke 20: “20 They watched closely and sent spies who pretended/acted to be righteous, so they could catch Him in what He said, to hand Him over to the governor’s rule and authority.”
- ▼ Consider:
 - ▼ James 3:17 “17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.”
 - Sincere= same word. NOT Acted This verse says Wisdom from God isn’t simulated or acted.
 - ▼ 1 Timothy 1:5 5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
 - Faith must be not acted...
 - 1 Peter 1:22 “22 You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.”
- ▼ **SO Here’s the thing. The Word calls us to UNActed love for each other. HOW IN THE WORLD DO WE GET THERE WHEN or IF We don’t FEEL IT?!!!!?**

- ▼ As you ponder that question, please watch a few minutes of this video. Its a little emotional, but makes an important point. I have one single goal in mind to demonstrate.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJBLEPMcX2s> (end at 4:20)
- ▼ What is the point? Not merely to get you emotional and make you feel good, but to show that, even in secular situations, there is a certain amazing power in kindness. How much greater power is there in Christ empowered Sacrificial love and deep, UNACTED love? I'm glad you asked!
 - John 13:34 **“34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”**
 - WHAT KIND OF LOVE??? UNACTED LOVE. UnFeigned Love. Genuine Love. Real Love. Love that you don't have to manufacture!!
- ▼ **WHAT CAN WE DO? Two Keys:**
 - ▼ Key#1 - ABIDING.
 - ▼ 1 John 4:7 “Beloved, let us love one another, for love IS FROM GOD, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love [...] 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also OWE love to one another. WHERE DOES LOVE COME FROM? 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this (LOVING EACH OTHER) we know that we abide in him and he in us [...] 16. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”
 - NOTE: If there is a problem with loving each other, the problem is almost always, in nearly every case, rooted in one's relationship with God and NOT with people. Second Commandment problems are ALWAYS First commandment related. LOVE IS FROM GOD. If LOVE ISNT FLOWING INTO YOU FROM GOD AND OUT OF YOU TO HIS PEOPLE, then the problem isn't the people it is from the abiding in God! LOVE FROM GOD WILL ALWAYS BE UNFEIGNED AND IS NOT DEPENDENT ON YOUR WEEK, or YOUR ENERGY, OR YOUR SITUATION, OR THE OTHER PERSON. WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US!
 - ▼ Key #2 - Depth in the Word
 - Key in Mark 4: WORD GOING DEEP THROUGH HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERED MEDITATION: “20 But the ones sown on good ground are

those who hear the word, welcome it, and produce a crop: 30, 60, and 100 times what was sown [...] 24 Then He said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear. By the measure you use, it will be measured and added to you. 25 For to the one who has, it will be given, and from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away."

- **ABIDE, MEDITATE, LOOK TO JESUS!**