

Walking in Love

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C. Elijah Bronner: You should set aside space in everyday to show God's love to somebody.

Female: You are listening to brothersoftheword.com. This is Part 2 of the series titled "Walking in Love" by C. Elijah Bronner. This message is number 7781. That's 7781. Listen to over a thousand free messages on brothersoftheword.com.

(Music Playing)

Female: And now for 7781, "Walking in Love" Part 2.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining brothers of the word because brother you need the word. We welcome all of you and joining us by television and those of you joining us online at brothersoftheword.com, Facebook live. Thank you for tuning in and joining us onto day. I was wonderful delight to have you. Well, just a little humor, three boys are in the school yard bragging about their father's and the first boy says, "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it poem and they give him \$50". The second boy says, "That nothing, my dad scribbles a few words a piece of paper, he calls it a song they give him a \$100". The third boy says, "I got you both beat, my dad scribbles on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon and it takes eight people to collect all the money."

Well, we are looking at a text over in the book of -- Clayton really appreciates the joke, I like that, Book of Ephesians. I'll have to make sure Clayton travels with me so whenever I preach somewhere I can only begun to hit someone to be laughing at in. The Ephesians Chapter 5, and we were using verse 1 and 2 as a text, Ephesians Chapter 5 Verse 1 and 2 says, "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also have loved us, and have given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour and walk in love as Christ also have loved us."

And so, we are speaking from the subject Walking In Love, this is part 2, Walking In Love part 2. Love is to be the guiding principle in our relationships. It is a guiding principles in our relationships and Jesus is our chief example. He is our chief model and description tells us to walk in love as he walked in love as he loved us and gave himself for us. Let you know that love is self-sacrificing, meaning that you have to give up yourself for someone else's benefit.

And so, he gives Jesus as model. He loved us to the point where gave himself for us. So, unless you know that love gives, love is willing to make a sacrifice and sacrificial, lets you know to love people is hard is hard, it is hard. So, the Bible never said it was easy, it just told you to do it. It is hard, it was hard for Jesus to go the cross, it was hard. He sweated as it were a great drops of blood in the Garden of Gethsemane. Medical science tells us that what he actually did, that's a condition that when so much pressure is on you your capillaries actually burst in your head. Your capillaries burst when there is that much pressure on you.

So, he was literally sweating blood, he was sweating blood. So, that's actually a medical condition, but he loved us and it was hard, it was hard but he sacrificed himself. So, love requires a sacrifice. Love gives, lust always seeks to get at someone else's expense. So, lust is out for itself, is out to get. Love is completely the opposite. Love is out to give at the expense of itself. And so, love is willing to sacrifice. And so, Jesus is our model and he says, "You got to love one another as I have loved you and I gave myself for you." So, he lets us know that love is a sacrifice. Say that with me, "Love is a sacrifice. Love is a sacrifice. Love is hard." Say that with me, "Love is hard. Love is hard." It's hard to love some people, it is. It is hard to love some people but praise God.

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The good news is that we have God's love. We have God's love on the inside of us. And so, this is not just a natural love in your own ability and in your own mind and in your strength. We have God's divine love on the inside of us. And Roman's 5:5 says that, "The love of God has been shed abroad or poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit." So, we have God's love on the inside of us and this is a divine love. It's a very love that God himself is. It's the same love that he loved Jesus with. We have that love living on the inside of us via God faith love of God. The God kind of love we have in us. And so, that's a love that we are studying in this series.

And in this particular text here as it tells us to walk in love as Jesus did. As within that text on Ephesians 5, 1 and 2 but even in the previous chapter, Chapter 4 of Ephesians it actually begins to give us some highlights of this kind of love walk. Just turn back to the previous chapter, Chapter 4. Our text is in Chapter 5

but look in Chapter 4, he actually begins to enumerate some of the characteristics of this divine love that we are going to walk in.

Let's look at Ephesians Chapter 4 Verse 2. You start seeing some of this love, Ephesians Chapter 4 Verse 2 it says, "With all loneliness and meekness, with long suffering." So, I want you to get this, "With all loneliness and meekness" that's humility "With long suffering for bearing one another in love." So notice, you have to debase yourself. So, that's humility. So, it says, be amble, and you have to be patient with people for bearing one another in love. In other words, people are not perfect. People have thoughts. They have all type of little idiosyncrasies. They have weaknesses. They have issues. They have hang-ups. They have problems. People are not perfect. And when you deal with people who were not perfect it requires patients.

Now, I want you to get this. Patients with God is called phase. Patients with men is called love. And so, this what it says here in Ephesians 4:2, "With all loneliness and meekness." So, amble yourself with long suffering. It's a long suffering process to deal with some people. It's a long suffering process. It's a patient process. In other words, you're going to have to put with some people that they going to get on your nerve, they going to drive you mad. You know, you're going to be at your wits and dealing with some people but the Bible says, Amble yourself and deal with it." Give them a little room. Give them a little space. Give them a little grace. Extend some grace to them because you have had grace extended to you. You had haven't been perfect all your life. God is been merciful to you when you didn't deserve it. And so, we have that same love and that same mandate on us that we have to extend grace to other people when they don't deserve it.

And so, he is saying here, "Amble yourself and cut people some slack." Turn to your neighbor and say, "Cut on some slack." Get people some slack. So, there's a humility in love and you have to be patient with people because people have flaws. People are also at various stages of growth and development. So, not everybody is as mature as you are. Not everybody is as experienced as you are. Not everybody has it together like you do. And so, you have to be companionate with people who are at earlier stages of their growth and development and you can't judge people based on yourself because you don't know what they have been through. You don't know what their dealing with now. You don't know

where they are in their growth and development. So, God say, "Hey, be patient with them."

In fact, be patient with them. Why don't you help them to grow. Why don't you be patient them, help them to develop. Be patient with them. Cut them some slack and learn to deal with them out of love. And so, it requires effort and it really requires work to be patient with some people because people can be difficult. People can be difficult. So, we have to extend grace to certain people.

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You know you have to be patient with them and extend grace because if you don't, you're going to have problems in your relationships.

I remember Pastor Nathaniel. He was pastoring to a couple who were married and you know it just to the point where there was no grace in their relationship any longer. And the husband -- he had gotten to the point when he was nitpicky that he said, he just couldn't stand it because her life left the cap off of the toothpaste. It just drove him mad. But it become so nitpicky some many little things it just end up dissolving their marriage but it was because they didn't allow any grace. They didn't have any patients. They didn't amble themselves and have patients. Willing to put up with some things because you love him, for love sake. You put up with some things and you're kind and considerate and you have patients with people for love sake. And so, that's what he is teaching us here that you know in order to do that we have to be feel with God's love and allow that love to flow in us and through us.

There is description in Philippians, I wanted to share that tt kind of talks about this as well. Keep your finger of where you are in Ephesians but flip over to the Book of Philippians which is the next book to the right. Philippians Chapter 1 and Verse 9, it talks about love here. And it says, "And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment. That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ."

And he actually goes on and I won't take the time to read on some other verses here in Philippians, but he says, you got to grow more and more in love. You want to let your love increase, your love

walk is going to get better and better. You want to allow your love walk to grow and abound more and more, get better and better, grow and grow, more and more in God's love and in your love walk. And he goes on to talk about. I jotted it down some of the thoughts he shares in Philippians in the first chapter. But he says the same thing we just read. He says, "Grow in love more and more, don't let offense and strife come in. Be amble, is not all about you. Be considerate of others."

He said the same thing that we just read and jotted those notes down. So, he says, "Grow in love more and more. Don't let offense and strife come in, be amble, it's not all about you, be considerate of others."

Now, flip back to where we were in Ephesians. Let's just say this little press. Repeat after me, "Father, help me to grow more and more in your love and I want to allow your love to be as an ocean that floods my heart. Washing out all strife, our ill feeling, all unforgiveness, all male(ph) undercurrents, because life is short and I want to love all I can. Praise God." Isn't that a good prayer? I wrote that prayer down. That's good prayer. I wrote that Holy Spirit and led to me write that prayer.

We want to allow God's love to be like an ocean that it will just flood our hearts, washing away all the junk, washing away all the ill feeling, all the harboring of offenses, all the strife, washing away all the little undercurrents. Now, when I say undercurrents, I'm referring to things that you don't verbalize. You don't say it but there are thoughts within your heart. She thinks she's all of that. And you know how we talked about people in our own heart. Nobody hears it, nobody knows it but it's your own heart. I called that an undercurrent but God looks on the heart. Nobody can hear that but God is able to hear that undercurrents of your heart.

And so, I want the love of God to be like an ocean that just floods our heart, washing away all the undercurrents, washing away all the ill feeling, washing all the unrighteousness and all the unforgiveness, and all those strife, all the bitterness. I just want the love of God to be like an ocean that washes over us, cleaning it all out and then there be nothing left but love.

Nothing left but the love of God in our hearts. The Bible says in the Book of Proverbs that out of your heart are the issues of life.

And so, whatever is in your heart that's what it flows out of life. And so, we want the love of God to just fill our hearts and allow that to be the issue that flows from our lives. The love of God, nothing but the love god. I don't care how you mistreat me. The only thing coming out of me is going to be love towards you.

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My treatment of you is not based on how you treat me. My treatment of you is based on the love of God that's in my heart. Praise God. That's happens when the love of God is in you. That takes God's love, nothing but love. Say that with me, "Nothing but love." Nothing but love that's all that comes of me, nothing but love, nothing but love. Let that be your mantra, nothing but love. Get up in the morning and the first thing you said, nothing but love. Father, I love you with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, I love my neighbors, myself and father I declared that nothing but love will flow out of me today.

Nothing but love, nothing but love, let that be your mantra. Nothing but love when you're driving in traffic and somebody cuts of and flips the finger at you just smile and say, "Nothing but love." Nothing but love and God bless you brother, thank you for letting me know that I'm number one. God bless you. Nothing but love, nothing but love, nothing but love, nothing but love, only let love flow out of you.

So, when somebody has mistreated you, somebody has cheated you or stolen from you, lied on you, if your husband or wife says something sideways to you let nothing but love flow out of you. Let nothing but love dominate your thought. Let nothing but love dominates your heart.

Now, this is a mature walk but this is the walk that we're call to. It's a walk that we're called to because Jesus lives on the inside of us. Greater is he that's only inside of us and hides in the world. And he yells love, God who is love has come to live on the inside of us and that's how God operates and God is love. God is love. Now, we have notice the Bible it never says that God is power, it never says that God is force. It says God is love. It's the only thing that the Bible describe that he is, he is love and when you dwell in love, you literally dwell in God. And when you dwell in God, you literally dwell in love. God, is love, God is love. You can actually take that and translate the whole Bible. You can

substitute the name of God for love and you can read the whole Bible that way.

In the beginning love created the world. Love so love the world and he gave his only begotten son. God is love, God is love. And so, when he filled us and he dominates our lives he wants us to walk and live this love walk. Praise God.

But God just show a picture of that ocean just washing us, coming over us, and let the ocean up his love. Just flood us, our entire being, washing out all the junk, washing out all the strife, washing out all the undercurrents, washing out all the bitterness, all the little pet pees. She's mad at me because of this and that, because I wore the same dress she wore. She's mad at me -- and you know, all of this little silly things, all of this little hang-ups. You'd be surprise when people get mad over -- you know and they end up, they see you, they won't speak to you because they supposed to be mad at you.

You know, all of this petty -- men wash all of that craft away, let it all be washed out by ocean of God's love. Let an ocean of God's love just washes. Life is too short, is what the Holy Spirit said to me. He said, life is too short, love all you can. Life is too short, love all you can. Life is too short, love all you can. Fill up your days with love. You should set aside space in everyday to show God's love to somebody. Set aside space in everyday to show God's love to somebody. Set aside space in everyday. Make time in your day to show someone God's love. Look for opportunity. Search for opportunities to show Go's love to somebody.

Man, we're talking about walking in love, walking in love. Let me see if I can finish up, I wrapped up, I'm out of time, ill wrapped up. Ephesians, we were looking at the Chapter 4. So, Ephesians Chapter 4, we were looking at some of the characteristics of love in Ephesians Chapter 4, but look at this one on Ephesians chapter 4 Verse 29, let's look at that one. Now, here were do even let love govern our conversation. Ephesians 4:29, "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

So, don't talk negatively about people, don't talk negatively about people because that's not a part of the love walk. And so, don't let any corrupt communication precede out of your mouth but that

which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

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So now, love governs our communication. It governs the way we talk. Don't talk negative of about people because that's not the way of love, that's not the way of love. Love doesn't talk negatively about people. That's not the way of love. What love does, love prays for them instead. Don't talk negatively about people. I'm not saying people don't have faults, they don't have issues and weaknesses, I'm not saying people are not in error. They are but your responsibility is to pray for them not to talk about them. That's an opportunity to pray for people. Pray for people. So, when you got some juicy gossip that you want to share about somebody, instead of talking about them pray for him. Pray for him instead of spreading gossip. Love doesn't spread illicit gossip, it doesn't.

The love walk doesn't spread illicit gossip. We're going to cover that later. That's in part three. That's in part three. But in part three though we're going to first Corinthians 1: 13, the great love chapter. But let love govern your conversation, let love govern your conversation. And we just allow God's love to permeate our hearts and our spirits and we learn to live and that's how you really enjoy an abundant life.

You enjoy abundant life when you're living a life that is founded in love and grounded in love and overflowing with God's love. That's the abundant life, that's truly the abundant life. Because when you enjoy life because you're living the love walk and you're walking in love. It is the highest calling that we have us Christians, as people of God, it is our highest calling. Nothing but love, nothing but love. The Bible actually says that, "If want to compete with one another, try to outdo one another, loving one another." If you want to compete with somebody try to outdo them, loving one another. That's the only competition were called to. Try to outdo one another.

In the Book Hebrew it says, we have to provoke one another unto love and good works. So, I'm provoking you in this series. I'm provoking you in this series unto love and unto good words. Praise God.

I'm out of time I'm going stop right there. Give the Lord a hand cuff of praise, praise the Lord, amen, amen, amen. Those of you who are watching us by television, I want you to go to brothersoftheword.com. You can listen to this series in this entirety simply Walking in Love. You can also email it to a friend, absolutely free of charge. Thank you so much for joining us today at Brothers of The Word, because brother you need the word.

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