

# LOVE MORE, FOR LOVE NEVER FAILS

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Love is the greatest weapon in the universe where all else fails, love always wins. Love conquers, and has always conquered the beast in man. By the “Beast”, I mean the evil nature in man. The meanest of all men has always bowed to love. No matter how hard-hearted or wicked a man may be, when loved, will bow. That is why the wicked have lovers – people that they laugh and play with. In the presence of such people wickedness is suspended or forgotten as long as their fellowship lasts.

There is something in man that craves for love. And nothing can fill that vacuum. Man is constructed (made) to love and to be loved. Man including your difficult spouse is created to seek and expect love. Man is created to fall for or bow to love. All this is so because man is a product of love from a loving God who himself is an embodiment of love – God is love.

*1 John 4:7-10*

*7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

*NIV*

Everything about God is love. He exists in love. The essence of God is love. All He does, He does out of love. All He created, he created out of love. When He judges, He is driven by love. Every Father disciplines the children he loves. Discipline is an act of love and not hate. There is no hate or evil in God that is why He is described as the “unapproachable light”, one who “wraps himself in light as with a garment”, and The “father of heavenly light”. Light is a symbol of purity; and purity is the absence of evil.

If God is love and operates in love, anyone who claims to belong to and know Him must necessarily walk in love. Like father like child. No wonder Jesus said, “By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another” (John 13:35). As a child of God, you have the capacity to love like our father in heaven. You can love those who prove difficult. You don’t need to give up on your spouse, but love him or her more. Love bears all things. Love overlooks offences. Love accommodates weaknesses from others. Love is patient, and the one in love must patiently wait for change to be effected as long as it takes to happen in the life of the one he loves. Love never keeps record of wrongs, but forgives and throws offences forgiven into the ocean of forgetfulness. How can you continue to love your partner when you continue to keep record of all the evil he has done against you. Bitterness and malice kill love and darken the heart and form hatred.

*1 Cor 13:4-8*

*4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.*

NIV

Love trusts even when trust has been broken many times by the people we love. Love hopes for change and does not give up holding on, trusting God through prayer and faith to change the one we love. Love is not easily angered. Love conditions the heart to absorb pain and injury to the point that we are able to manage every unpleasant situation and not submit to negative thoughts and emotions and become angry, and in anger do bad things. With love in your heart, you can bear with your partner. What you need to do is to love your spouse more despite your complains against him or her.

Love is not self-seeking. It is not selfish or self-centered. Self is the main problem and challenge of man. Love in the heart gives victory over self. Most of the marital challenges that we have is as a result of self. Conquer self today through love and see how your marriage will turn out.

Love does not delight in evil and always protects. It is essential that you let love feel your heart and grow in you to the point that evil does not come into you about your spouse. Never submit to negative thoughts that suggest evil actions against your spouse. Love never fails to produce result. Your love for your spouse definitely will produce a positive result. Do not allow the pain of the moment to make you become impatient and give up loving your spouse. It is your nature to love. You cannot deny your nature. Let it flow out of you. Do not allow negative thoughts to feel your mind to the point that love cannot flow in you and out of you anymore. God has been and is still bearing with you, so you can do it for he has given you his nature. Love your spouse and never stop loving him or her no matter what. Burry yourself in love for him, or her and you will soon see what God the great and mighty one will do for you to make things all right again.

### **LOVE ENABLES A MAN TO OVERLOOK AN OFFENCE**

*1 Peter 4:7-8*

*8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

NIV

*Prov 19:11*

*11 A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.*

NIV

Without love it is difficult to overlook and forgive an offence. But a heart filled with love will always be willing to overlook an offence. Deep love covers a multitude of sins. Deep love continues to tolerate and absorb all wrong doings. If you are intolerant and find it difficult to overlook an offence, then you are not walking in God's love. Measure your love by how much you are able to tolerate your partner or offender.

### **LOVE PROVES US TO BE TRUE SONS OF GOD**

*Luke 6:35-36*

*35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

NIV

*Matt 5:9*

*9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.*

*NIV*

*1 John 4:7-8*

*7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

*NIV*

*John 13:34-35*

*34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

*NIV*

Love is the only true proof of sonship in Jesus Christ. Since God is love, you can't be a son of God and not walk and live in love. Love is true evidence and mark of a true disciple of Jesus Christ. Love is the nature of the believer. It is the spiritual blood that flows in the vein of the believer. Love is the life that flows in the spirit of the believer. You can't be born of God and not be a lover. You are a lover by nature, therefore, you can love anyone and everyone, including those who hate and ill-treat you. Shout it our Loud now, "I AM A LOVER". Keep saying it to yourself until it starts flowing out of you.

Love conquers everyone and anyone who is loved. Anyone can change when loved. And love involves patience. You must be willing to be patient till the change expected is effected. You can't love without practicing patience.

The love of God won me over. The love of God won you over. The love of God is still changing us from one glory to another. If you have not given your life to Christ, give your life now. Let the love of God displayed through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ touch your heart and win you over now.

Love is so powerful that the one who experiences it is always more productive than the unloved. Love fills a man with energy and enthusiasm. It has a way of bringing out the best in a man. A loving environment is a good environment for creativity and productivity. A loved person is a creative person. Let your spouse feel your love and you will be surprised how productive he or she will become. Love changes many things in man's life. It makes and old person to feel young again. It turns a wicked man into a kind man. It softens the heart of the hard-hearted. Love will change your spouse and you will reap the benefit.

Love makes a man happy, and when he is happy, he is energetic. When a man is happy, he lives a healthy life.

*Prov 15:13*

*13 A happy heart makes the face cheerful, but heartache crushes the spirit.*

*NIV*

*Prov 15:31*

*31 He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.*

*NIV*

*Prov 18:14*

*14 A man's spirit sustains him in sickness, but a crushed spirit who can bear?*

*NIV*

You will discover that your own health will improve when you love rather than be bitter towards your spouse. You need love, I need love, and everybody needs love. Your unruly neighbor needs love. Your uncooperative boss and colleague need love. You can win anybody over through love. But let your love be sincere and genuine. Owe no man anything but love, for love is the fulfillment of the law. All the law of God find their fulfillment in love.

*Rom 13:8-10*

*8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.*

*NIV*

To walk in Love is to obey all the commandments of the Lord. To walk in love is to walk in holiness. To walk in love is to live the life of God – it is to live the life of Christ. To hate and stop loving your spouse for what he or she has done to you is contrary to the nature of God in you. Think of God seizing to love you for all your failures and sins, how your life would look like. But you see, God cannot stop loving because it is His nature to love. For Him to stop, means to deny Himself and cease to exist. Never hate, never stop loving. Keep loving your spouse and you will soon reap the benefits.

Love everybody especially your spouse, because you owe everybody love. Be kind to people. Be patient with people. Tolerate people and forbear when they offend you. Forgive when offended and don't keep records of wrong. Be humble and associate with people of low esteem. Be free with people and serve them no matter your status in life.

Use the weapon of love and win over those who don't love you. Win your spouse over all over again. Win your in-laws through love. Love and love, and never stop loving and being loved in Jesus name.

### **PRACTICING LOVE**

Love is practical. It is not theoretical. God loves us, this we know because he proved it by giving us his only begotten Son to die in our place that we may be saved. And John explains that if we don't love our brother whom we see every day, how can we say we love God whom we do not see.

Love is tied up to work – your acts show your love.

*James 2:14-26*

*14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? 15 Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."*

*Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. 19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that-and shudder. 20 You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? 21 Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. 23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. 24 You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone. 25 In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? 26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.*

*NIV*

You don't love by mouth, you show love practically. Love is all about giving. It is sacrificing who you are, what you have and what you need to satisfy another person. You can't love without giving, though you can give without loving. Give your best. Give your heart in love.

Love is all about making another person happy, though you suffer some deprivation in the process. Love is all about putting a smile on someone's face; touching someone's heart; strengthening a weak, discouraged, tired and burn-out person. It is giving hope to the hopeless. Love is restoring the lost and making people excited about living. Love is individual oriented. It is practical. Show it to your spouse without reservation. When you love your spouse, you are not doing him a favour, but helping yourself to live in peace and happy in your home. If your spouse is happy, you will be happy. If he is sad, you will feel it – it will rub off on you.

## **HOW TO SHOW LOVE**

*Luke 6:27-36*

*27 "But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. 29 If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. 30 Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. 32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' do that. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' lend to `sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. 35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

NIV

1. Love - In the heart
2. Do good - Practical
3. Pray for - Spiritual exercise required.
4. Bless them - Prophecy on the object of love.
5. Do unto others what you will have them do unto you. - Spiritual law of life.

## CONCLUSION

*Rom 13:8*

*8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.*

*KJV*

All you owe your spouse is love and not quarrels, fight and vengeance. Never stop loving your spouse. Love with all your heart, for you owe it to your spouse. Never doubt the power of love for love always wins, and never fails. God won you through love despite your evil past. If he succeeded over you through love, I believe with all my heart you can succeed in changing your spouse through love practiced in your:-

1. Soft, tender and wise words seasoned with salt and full of grace,
2. Overlooking his or her offences,
3. Never raising your voice to abuse or insult and curse your spouse,
4. Being nice and kind,
5. Submitting in love,
6. Praying for your spouse,
7. Focusing on his good and strong points and not on his weak points,
8. Purposefully thinking positive thoughts about him for thoughts influence and control a man's words and actions.
9. Commending and appreciating your spouse where and when necessary.

Don't love by mouth. Be practical. Let everybody see your love. Love is contagious. Spread it. Win friends through love. Affect someone positively through love. Let your faith in God and in our Savior Jesus Christ be seen through practical love, make someone happy every day. Say a kind and encouraging word to someone who needs it every day. Visit the brethren. Don't gossip or slander another person. Promote love and peace, and not hate and division. Teach others how to love and serve God by your practical example.

## WORD OF WISDOM

### **What to do if your partner is proving difficult to live with.**

1. Accept the situation as a challenge that must be overcome.
2. Don't go confrontational every time, for that will complicate rather than solve the problem.
3. Forebear and forgive always.

4. Intercede regularly in your closet for your partner.
5. Speak what you want to see and not what you are seeing in your partner.
6. Encourage your partner to attend seminars and programmes that will help him or her overcome and recover.
7. Buy books and tapes that will bless him or her, and both of you read and listen to them over and over again.
8. Stop reporting your partner to just anybody.
9. Hope for a change.