

# THE FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIP

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Every relationship if it is to be successful must be built on a strong and solid foundation. The foundation of every building determines the strength, height, weight and durability of the building.

A weak foundation will produce a weak building. A strong foundation will carry a strong building. Any relationship built on a weak foundation will not stand the test of time.

Foundation for relationship is the principle upon which a man builds his life on. This principle is primarily determined by a man's attitude and disposition to the Almighty God. When a man has respect for God, he will build on the principles of God. When a man has no respect or regard for God, he will build on the philosophies of men and the devil. And the foundational principles of a man direct his lifestyle. A wrong foundation will produce a wrong life. A pure and righteous foundation will produce a holy lifestyle in a relationship.

Love for God is the strong foundation for a successful relationship, courtship and marriage. When a man or woman has love abiding in his or her heart for God, it will motivate that person to search out the principles, laws, and will of God, and walk in it in order to please God. Jesus taught us in John 14:15,21,23-24, that you can't love without obeying the one you love.

*John 14:15*

*15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command.*

*NIV*

*John 14:21*

*21 Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."*

*NIV*

*John 14:23-24*

*23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.*

*NIV*

Love motivates obedience. Obedience is the proof of love. The love for God will cause the lover to apply the principles of God in his or her relationship. Hence, love as the foundation for a strong, durable and successful relationship.

*Matt 7:24-27*

*24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish*

*man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."*

*NIV*

To build on a philosophy and principle that is not of God is to build your relationship and life on sinking sand. And as Jesus taught, it will not stand the test of time. Only a life and relationship built on the word of God stands the storms (challenges) of life.

### **WHAT LOVE FOR GOD IS**

*Mark 12:30-31*

*30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

*NIV*

We have already established that without love for God, one cannot practice the principles of God, which guarantees success in every life endeavor. Obedience is the proof of love. So love for God is the foundation for successful, strong and durable relationship.

God wants all his people to love him with all their heart (spirit). He wants us to love him with the whole of our hearts and make him happy. He wants us to love him with our emotions (Be emotionally involved with him). He wants us to love him with our will (Always decide in favour of God's will.) Will to do his will. Finally, he wants us to love him with all our strength. To love God with your strength is to love God with all that makes you - your talent, gifts, training, skill, manpower, money and property.

God wants us to love him with our total being. No one loves without emotions. No one loves without being fond of the person. No one loves without willing to do so and working to please the one he or she loves. No one loves without giving time, help money or materials. The same way, God wants us to love him. Love that is rooted in the heart is hard to kill by adverse circumstances. Love that is from the heart is always sincere. So we must love God enough to be sincere in our relationship with him.

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.** Love for God means having a heart for God
- 2.** Love for God means serving God with the whole of your heart
- 3.** Love for God means seeking to please God in all that you do
- 4.** Love for God means honoring God above all else
- 5.** Love for God means being excited about God, his word and kingdom.
- 6.** Love for God means working for the expansion of the kingdom of Christ.
- 7.** Love for God means that you love God more than every other person.
- 8.** Love for God demands that you live by the principles of God in order to please God. And that you sacrifice whatever is necessary to make God happy and pleased with you.
- 9.** Love for God means the practice or application of the principles and word of God in every area of life - living by the word.

## **THE IMPLICATION OF LOVE FOR GOD**

The implication of love for God in your relationship is that:

- 1.** God will be honored in your relationship.
- 2.** You won't sin against God in your relationship.
- 3.** The word of God will be your guiding principle, and this will bring much blessing to your life and relationship.
- 4.** The devil will have no legal grounds to come into your relationship.
- 5.** Your relationship will be strong, durable and successful.
- 6.** It guarantees you and your partner's daily improvement and perfection.

## **CONCLUSION**

Develop strong love for God. Let your love be even stronger than your love for your fiancé or fiancée. God must be first in your life. The first and most important commandment according to the scripture we have been considering is love for God before love for self and for your neighbor.

Work on your mindset. Remove every negative thought in you that hinders the Love of God in your heart. See right, and you will love right. Think right, and you will see right. Protect your love for God. Don't tolerate anything or anyone that tends to undermine your love for God, or discourages you from loving God. Guard your heart and mind. What you tolerate stays. Be careful! Watch out for the wolves. Kill the love killers in your mind. Love God forever and you will celebrate an ever-exciting relationship.