

**WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED LOVE?**  
**“Man’s Love for Man”**  
**Mark 12:28-34**

**INTRODUCTION**

- A. You frequently hear statements like:
  - 1. “Love doesn’t send people on a guilt trip.”
  - 2. “Love accepts people where they are.”
- B. In our previous two lessons, we have discovered:
  - 1. “Love is known only from the actions it prompts.”
  - 2. God shows His love to man by:
    - a. Blessings and joy.
    - b. Discipline and chastisement.
  - 3. Man shows his love to God by:
    - a. Worship.
    - b. Daily living.
    - c. Obedience.
- C. How are we to show our love to man?

**I. THE IMPORTANCE AND NEED OF LOVE.**

- A. Command.
  - 1. Lk. 6:27-36
  - 2. Rom. 13:8-10
- B. Everything else done is worthless without love.
  - 1. 1 Cor. 13:1-3
  - 2. 1 John 3:10-16

**II. THE WAYS WE SHOW LOVE.**

- A. How Not to Show it:
  - 1. Not by ignoring sin.
    - a. Jas. 5:19-20
    - b. Jude 20-23
  - 2. Not by becoming “broad-minded” or “tolerant” and covering everything with a mantle of love.
    - a. Jude 3-4
    - b. 2 Peter 2:1-2 (whole chapter)
    - c. Even in the church were those who were not to be accepted – never mind those outside.
  - 3. Not by lack of discipline.
    - a. God shows love through discipline.
    - b. 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Cor. 2:1-8
- B. How to Show Love:
  - 1. Physically:
    - a. Mt. 25:34-40
    - b. “Good Samaritan”
    - c. 1 John 3:16-18

2. Putting Others First.
  - a. Rom. 14:19-21
  - b. Rom. 15:1-4
  - c. When we deliberately do things in front of others that disturbs them, we violate the principle of love.
3. Spiritually.
  - a. Teach others of God, Rom. 9:1-5.
  - b. Encourage Christians, Gal. 6:1-2.
  - c. Speak the truth, Eph. 4:14-16.
  - d. Forgiving spirit, Eph. 4:1-2.
  - e. Summed up in 1 Cor. 13:4-7.

## **CLOSING**

- A. What is love?
  1. It is the driving force from God that causes me to care for others, to teach the truth, sympathize, to encourage, to point out error, to discipline, to be forgiving, to bear burdens and be obedient.
  2. In short, it is being God-like.
    - a. 1 John 4:10-16