

# CHIEF

## MINISTRIES

November 2011

Have you ever asked yourself, "With God in charge, how can the world be in such a mess?" I've begun to ask that more and more as the days pass by. How can God continue to allow the love of many to wax cold and sin continues to seemingly grow? How can God allow others to persecute His children, even unto death? Why does God allow hate, or betrayal, especially after what happened to His own son? Whatever happened to love? There have been some whom I have found easy to love. Why? I'd say it's mainly due to their disposition. They've shown themselves friendly. Those are the ones you want to reach out to and help. Then there are the ones who don't know how to love. Perhaps a traumatic event has hindered them from receiving love, or a spirit of rejection or abandonment causes them to always push people away or keep them at arm's length. Whatever happened to love?

I remember when I first landed in prison. I looked around at every imaginable type of fellow. All sizes, shapes and colors. I remember hearing the voice of the Lord, saying, "Many are called, but few are chosen." I thought, "Ain't that the truth." And then He said, "You're looking at the "chosen"." It surprised me as I thought, "Are you serious?" And on that day. I learned to reach out with greater love to His chosen. I must admit there have been times that I argued with God about some of the men around me as being "chosen". But, God showed me how the enemy has also seen their choosing and has been fighting against their destiny from day one. Many still have no idea that this is the case. Perhaps you, reading this need to realize God has "chosen" you! What a wonderful thought! As I've met different men in prison, I've been able to share what I have and bless countless brothers with Bibles, food, a listening ear and a kind word. I've actually had several ask "why do you show me and so many others, love like this?" And I've always been able to respond, "Because I have a lot of love to give." You see, when you begin to love the Lord with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength, as commanded in Matthew 22:37 and Luke 10:27, you should begin to feel the presence and love of God in your life like nothing you've ever felt before. And it's so awesome. You can't help but share it with those around you. Yeah, we all have faults, but thank God, He looks beyond our faults and sees our needs! That's amazing Grace! And powerful love! This is His commandment that we love one another as He has loved us! There is no greater love! Lay your life down for Him! "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." As quoted by Jim Elliott; a missionary to the Auca Indians in Ecuador he lost his life in the most publicized missionary massacre of the 20th century, when five young stalwarts representing three mission societies, were killed in January, 1956. He lost his life loving the unreached and unlovable. However, let's be real! It's not as easy as it sounds. How do you reach out with love to the guy with dragon breath, whose hygiene is horrendous? How do you love the guys who profess to know Christ, but the malice in their hearts is so obvious by one and all. They're the guys going to all the Christian programs, maybe doing Bible studies or trying to get the "degree" from University of the Highest Mightier Than Thou. As soon as they don't get their way in something, they're filing a grievance or starting rumors about the guys in their way – Babies, I tell ya and one must even question their salvation. After all, by their fruits you shall know them. And we should bear much fruit and prove to be His disciples. They love when it's convenient or suits their manipulative ways. I personally, have been so sickened by these types, I've had to ask God to forgive me for I found it almost impossible to love them. Then, God shows me through His eyes and I cry out to God that they would turn and see what He's trying to show them: Themselves. And it hurts to look at, but I look anew with sorrow and compassion. Romans 12:9 says, *"Let love be genuine. Not hypocritical."* Trust me on this one gents. It's painfully obvious when you're not being honest in your love giving, not only to those you're giving to, but to the One that matters. I Peter 1:22 says, *"having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,*

*23 since you have been born again not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God (I Peter 1:22-23 ESV)*

I Corinthians 13 is called the love chapter in the Bible. *v1 "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. v2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. v3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. v4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant v5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; v6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. v7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. v8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. v9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, v10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. v11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. v12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. v13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." (I Corinthians 13:1-13 ESV)*

Patience is passive love. It's not in a hurry. It suffers long. It bears, believes, hopes, and endures ALL things. Kindness is love in action. It never asked harshly or insolently. It is not inconsistent, puffed up, or proud. Generosity is love in competition. It's not envious or jealous. Humility is love in hiding. There is no parade. No airs. It works, then retires. Courtesy is love in society. It does not behave nastily. It's always polite and at home with all classes of people. It's never rude or discourteous. Unselfishness is love, in essence. It's never selfish, sour or bitter. It seeks only the good of others. It does not retaliate or seek revenge. Good temper is love in disposition. It's never irritated, never resentful. Righteousness is love in conduct. It hates sin. It's never glad when others go wrong. It's always gladdened by goodness to others. It's slow to expose. It's always eager to believe the best. It's always helpful. Always enduring. Sincerity is love in profession. It's never boastful or conceited. It's not a hypocrite. It's always honest. It leaves no impression, but what is strictly true. It's never self assertive. It does not blaze out in passionate anger, nor brood over wrongs. It's always just, joyful and truthful. It's full of trust.

Can you find yourself in any of the above? I pray you can and if not, that you will. Love, they say, is a many splendored thing. I agree. Let all that you do be done in love. Pursue Christ love. In these last days, can you find yourself loving more? And not allowing your love for God, first and foremost to grow cold, but keep the fire going. Stoke the embers that are fading out and throw another fresh log on the fire. Renew your love for God and for one another. The enemy is great at separating us, driving wedges and laughing at us because we've allowed it. Let's get back to loving others because He first loved us. Let all that you do be done in love. Pursue Christ! Pursue love! Love never fails!

Let's not forget to be thankful in everything, for this is the will of God! This time of year can be a bit disheartening perhaps or lonely due to it being a "family" time. Know this, lovers of God. We are all in one BIG family that are knit together with bonds of love and multiple prayers. I'm thankful for ALL of you. May His goodness and peace be with you during the holidays!

## **Chief**

*If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part of this, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com) coming soon [www.chiefshouse.org](http://www.chiefshouse.org)*

**Christ's**

**Heart**

**In**

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