

THE LOVE CONNECTION

“THE HORIZONTAL”

ST. JOHN 15:9-13

INTRODUCTION

WHEN WE CONSIDER THE TITLE OF OUR MESSAGE THIS MORNING, I'M SURE THERE ARE MANY OF US WHO CAN REMEMBER A CERTAIN GAME SHOW FROM THE 1980'S WHICH WAS CLEVERLY CALLED "THE LOVE CONNECTION".

FROM THE SAME PRODUCTION COMPANY THAT BROUGHT US MAMA'S FAMILY, DALLAS AND THE PEOPLE'S COURT, THE LOVE CONNECTION WAS ONE OF TELEVISION'S FIRST REALITY SHOWS, WHERE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WOULD TUNE IN EACH DAY, TO HEAR THE DETAILS OF SOMEBODY ELSE'S DATE...

IN OTHER WORDS, THE CONTESTANT WAS SET UP ON 3 DIFFERENT DATES. AND A DECISION HAD TO BE MADE AS TO WHICH ONE HAD THE STRONGEST CONNECTION.

THE AUDIENCE WOULD WEIGH IN AND REVEAL WHO *THEY* THOUGHT WAS BEST. BUT ULTIMATELY IT WAS UP TO THE CONTESTANT, TO DECIDE WHO THEY WANTED TO CONNECT WITH...

TRANSITION TO THE TEXT

WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE WORDS OF OUR TEXT, WE COME TO REALIZE THE FACT THAT OF ALL THE RELATIONSHIPS WE EMBARK UPON IN THIS WORLD, WHETHER IT BE A MAN/WOMAN RELATIONSHIP, OR EVEN OUR PLATONIC FRIENDSHIPS OR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR FAMILIES, THERE IS NO MORE POWERFUL CONNECTION IN THIS WORLD, THAN THE LOVE WHICH WAS EXTENDED TO US BY JESUS THROUGH THE CROSS...

THIS TABLE THAT IS SET BEFORE US, AT THE VERY LEAST IS A REMINDER OF GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL HUMANITY.

THE SYMBOL OF HIS BROKEN BODY, AND HIS SHED BLOOD, ARE SYMBOLS OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US.

THE REASON WE PARTICIPATE IN HOLY COMMUNION, IS SO WE NEVER FORGET THE SAVIOR AND HIS SACRIFICE...

JESUS SAID, "AS OFTEN AS YOU DO IT, HE SAID THIS DO, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME."

IN OTHER WORDS, WE NEED TO REMEMBER THAT IT WASN'T US WHO CHOSE HIM, BUT IT WAS HIM THAT CHOSE US.

AND NOT ONLY DID HE LOOK BEYOND OUR PAST FAULTS, HE LOOKED BEFORE OUR FUTURE FAULTS, AND LOVED US IN ADVANCE...

SO WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT LOVE AND BEING IN LOVE, FALLING IN LOVE AND STAYING IN LOVE, PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT NONE OF YOUR HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS WILL PROSPER, UNLESS A VERTICAL CONNECTION HAS BEEN MADE IN YOUR HEART...

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU CAN'T EVEN LOVE YOURSELF, MORE, LESS, SOMEBODY ELSE, UNTIL YOU LEARN FIRST AND FOREMOST HOW TO LOVE THE LORD. BECAUSE NOT ONLY IS GOD THE SOURCE OF LOVE. [1 JOHN 4:8], DECLARES THAT "GOD IS LOVE." ARE YOU WITH ME?

SO BEFORE YOU CAN CONNECT WITH A PERSON HORIZONTALLY, YOU AND THE LORD HAVE TO HOOK UP AND CONNECT VERTICALLY.

AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOUR EARTHLY FRIENDS, WHERE YOUR CONNECTION IS BASED ON FLESH.

THE WAY YOU ESTABLISH A CONNECTION WITH GOD, IS WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES IN AND MOVES ON YOUR HEART...

YOU SEE, WITHOUT THEM EVEN KNOWING IT, THE WORLD AND EVEN THE UNBELIEVER MAKES USE OF A GODLY PRINCIPLE EVERY DAY, BECAUSE THE SYMBOL THEY USE FOR LOVE, IS THE HEART.

YOU BEEN DOING IT SINCE YOU WERE IN THE 1ST GRADE. I

♥ YOU, AND DO YOU ♥ ME? CIRCLE YES OR NO.

WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING IT, YOU WERE CONFIRMING THE TRUTH FROM GOD'S WORD...

IN OTHER WORDS, GOD HAS A HEART, AND WE HAVE A HEART. AND WHEN GOD LOOKED OUT AT ALL THE SIN THAT WAS IN THE WORLD,[GENESIS 6:6] SAYS; *“THAT IT GRIEVED GOD AT HIS HEART THAT HE EVER CREATED MAN.* “

THAT'S WHY THE BIBLE SAYS THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, WITH ALL THY MIND, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL. BECAUSE WHEREVER YOUR SPIRITUAL TREASURE IS, JESUS SAID THERE WILL YOUR HEART BE ALSO.

DO YOU ALL SEE WHERE I'M TRYING TO GO WITH THIS.

I'M TALKING ABOUT A CONNECTION THAT BEGINS WITH THE HEART.

THAT'S WHY PAUL SAID, “IF YOU CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH, AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART, ONLY THEN CAN YOU SAY WITH CERTAINTY THAT A PERSON IS TRULY SAVED...”

SO WHEN YOU SEE A PERSON THAT'S NOT SAVED YET, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THAT'S A HEART ISSUE.

IN OTHER WORDS, FAITH, OR A LACK OF FAITH, IT'S A SIGN OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN A PERSON.

FOR THE UNBELIEVER, [PSALM 14] SAYS THAT “THE FOOL SAYETH IN HIS HEART THAT THERE IS NO GOD.”

AND WHEN A BELIEVER FINDS HIMSELF FEELING DISCONNECTED, DAVID ASKED THE LORD TO CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, AND RENEW THE RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME...

NOTICE HOW NONE OF THIS HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH OUTWARD APPEARANCES, BECAUSE IN SPITE OF HOW YOU LOOK, THE BIBLE DECLARES THAT GOD KNOWS THE SECRETS OF YOUR HEART.

HE EVEN KNOWS THOSE MOMENTS WHEN WE BACKSLIDE, OR WANDER TOWARDS OUR WORLDLY IMPULSES.

EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR A MOMENT, HE KNOWS THAT YOUR HEART WAS WITH SOMEBODY ELSE...

ALL I'M TRYING TO GET YOU TO SEE, IS THAT IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU BEEN KNOWING THE LORD FOR 50 YEARS OR 50 MINUTES, THE CORE OF YOUR CONNECTION WITH HIM IS IT BEGINS IN YOUR HEART.

ALL THIS PULPIT PILLOW TALK WE'RE HEARING NOWADAYS, THAT FLUFFY STUFF DON'T MEAN NOTHING IF YOUR HEART IS NOT CONNECTED TO THE LORD.

YOU CAN SING LIKE MAHALIA AND SHOUT THE WHOLE CHURCH, BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T MEAN YOUR HEART IS IN IT.

- **PRAY ALL YOUR FANCY PHRASES IN DEVOTION**
- **STAND ON THE DOOR AND SMILE**
- **SERVE IN MINISTRY AND HOLD THESE POSITIONS**

YOU CAN GO ON "YOUTUBE" AND WATCH YOUR FAVORITE PREACHER.

BUT NONE OF THAT STUFF WILL CARRY YOU IF THE LORD AINT REALLY CALLED YOU...

SO NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THE CORE OF THIS CONNECTION, LET ME HURRY TO GIVE YOU(4) MORE

POINTS THAT ARE OUTLINED IN THE WORDS OF OUR TEXT...

I. FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE THE PRINCIPLE OF LOVE. JESUS SAYS IN VERSE 9, AS THE FATHER HATH LOVED ME, I HAVE LOVED YOU.

A. THIS IS A PRINCIPLE THAT IS BASED ON A VERTICAL DECISION...

1. LIKE I SAID TO YOU IN THE SERMON “VERTICAL DECISION”, IT WAS NOT THAT WE CHOSE TO LOVE GOD, BUT RATHER IT WAS THAT HE CHOSE TO LOVE US.
2. AND HIS LOVE WASN'T BASED ON SOME GOOD WORKS THAT WE'VE DONE. HE DECIDED TO LOVE US IN SPITE OF OURSELVES...
3. THAT'S WHY THE BIBLE SAYS THAT “GOD , COMMENDED HIS LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, STILL STRUGGLING, STILL DEALING WITH ISSUES, CHRIST DIED FOR THE UNGODLY...”
4. SO THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF THIS CONNECTION SAYS THAT GOD, SO LOVED THE WORLD, WITHOUT RESERVATION OR HESITATION, HE OFFERED US HIS UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, IN THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM, SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE...

I. FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE THE PRINCIPLE OF LOVE. JESUS SAYS IN VERSE 9, AS THE FATHER HATH LOVED ME, I HAVE LOVED YOU.

II. THAT'S THE PRINCIPLE. AND ONCE YOU HAVE THE PRINCIPLE, YOU CONNECT WITH THE PATTERN OF LOVE...

A. WATCH ME NOW...JESUS SAYS ON THE TAIL END OF VERSE 9, HE SAYS CONTINUE IN MY LOVE. AND THEN HE EXTENDS THAT THOUGHT IN VERSE 10 WHEN HE SAYS, IF YE KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, YE SHALL ABIDE IN MY LOVE; EVEN AS I HAVE KEPT MY FATHER'S COMMANDMENTS, AND ABIDE IN HIS LOVE.

- 1. DON'T MISS THIS CONNECTION NOW...**
- 2. JUST LIKE A SEAMSTRESS SEWS HER OUTFITS BASED ON A PATTERN, THE WAY YOU CONSTRUCT YOUR LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN, IS BY FOLLOWING THE PATTERN THAT WAS SET FOR US BY CHRIST.**
- 3. IN OTHER WORDS, ANYTHING YOU WANNA KNOW ABOUT HOW TO LIVE, HOW TO ACT, HOW TO TALK, AND HOW TO RESPOND, JESUS LEFT YOU A PATTERN IN THE RED PAGES OF THE BIBLE...**
- 4. YOU WANNA KNOW HOW TO HANDLE CONFLICT, THERE'S A PATTERN FOR THAT.**
 - DEAL WITH TEMPTATION**
 - PRAY MORE EFFECTIVELY**
 - DELIVERED FROM DEMONS**
 - MANAGE FRIENDSHIPS**
 - REGULATE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS**
- 5. FOR EVERY PROBLEM IN THE WORLD, THERE'S A PATTERN IN THE WORD!**
- 6. JESUS SAYS I SET THE PATTERN. NOW ALL YOU ALL HAVE TO DO IS CONTINUE IN MY LOVE. AND WHEN YOU CONTINUE IN THE PATTERN OF GOD, YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON THE**

PROVISION OF GOD.

**CAN I TAKE A QUICK SIDEBAR FOR A MOMENT?...
SEE, IT'S NOT THAT GOD HAS ABANDONED US IN CERTAIN
SITUATIONS, BUT A LOT OF TIMES, WE MISS OUT ON HIS
PROVISION BECAUSE WE ABANDONED THE PATTERN.**

**THE PATTERN SAYS GIVE AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN. BUT
WHEN YOU ABANDON THAT, THAT'S WHEN YOU START
SEEING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES...**

**YEA, THE PATTERN SAYS SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF
GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS. AND ALL THESE OTHER
THINGS WILL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.**

**BUT WHEN YOU DECIDE TO PUT OTHER STUFF BEFORE HIM,
DON'T BE SURPRISED WHEN YOUR HOUSE OF CARDS COME
TUMBLING DOWN.**

I'M TALKING ABOUT FOLLOWING THE PATTERN.

**YEA, THE PATTERN SAYS LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, AND PRAY
FOR FOLKS WHO HURT YOU.**

**WHEN YOU START TRYING TO DO EVIL FOR EVIL, YOU
FORSAKE THAT PROTECTION THAT GOD WAS TRYING TO
GIVE YOU.**

**IN OTHER WORDS, GOD CAN FIGHT YOUR SPIRITUAL
BATTLES MUCH BETTER THAN YOU CAN. AND AS LONG AS
YOU STICK TO THE PATTERNS, YOU DON'T EVER HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT HIS PROVISION!**

**SO IF YOU CONTINUE IN THE LOVE THAT GOD HAS FOR
YOU, THAT'S A PATTERN THAT YOU CAN CARRY INTO YOUR
EARTHLY FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS.**

**I KNOW YOU WANT TO IGNORE IT, BUT THERE'S A PART IN
THAT PATTERN THAT SAYS, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.**

**WHICH MEANS IF YOU'RE INVOLVED IN A RELATIONSHIP
THAT VIOLATES HIS COMMANDMENTS, REGARDLESS OF**

HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, GOD IS NOT OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE YOUR PROTECTION...

[JOHN 14:15] SAYS; “IF YE LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS”. BECAUSE IT AINT ENOUGH FOR US TO PILE IN HERE ON SUNDAY MORNING, TRYING TO HAVE PILLOW TALK WITH GOD. GOD SAYS YOU CAN KEEP THE PILLOW TALK AND GET WITH *MY* PATTERN!

YEA, [VERSE 10] SAYS IF YE KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, YE SHALL ABIDE IN MY LOVE; EVEN AS I HAVE KEPT MY FATHER’S COMMANDMENTS, AND ABIDE IN HIS LOVE. HE SAYS THESE THINGS HAVE I SPOKEN UNTO YOU, THAT MY JOY MIGHT REMAIN IN YOU, AND THAT YOUR JOY MIGHT BE FULL.

IF YOU WANT JOY, FOLLOW THE PATTERN.

- **IF YOU WANT GENUINE AND LASTING RELATIONSHIPS**
- **IF YOU WANT YOUR MARRIAGE TO THRIVE**
- **IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO SUCCEED**
- **IF YOU WANT HEALING TO TAKE PLACE IN YOUR GENE POOL**

REGARDLESS OF HOW DIFFICULT IT MAY BE AT TIMES, AT THE END YOU CAN HAVE PEACE IF YOU FOLLOW THE PATTERN!...

- I. **FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE THE PRINCIPLE OF LOVE. JESUS SAYS IN [VERSE 9], AS THE FATHER HATH LOVED ME, I HAVE LOVED YOU.**
- II. **THAT’S THE PRINCIPLE. AND ONCE YOU HAVE THE PRINCIPLE, YOU CONNECT WITH THE PATTERN OF LOVE...**

III. SO WE HAVE THE PRINCIPAL, AND WE HAVE THE PATTERN. AND THIRDLY AND NEXT TO LASTLY, WE HAVE THE INDELIBLE PROOF OF GOD'S LOVE.

- A. [VERSE 12] SAYS, **“THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT, THAT YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. ¹³ GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS”.**

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOME TANGIBLE PROOF THAT YOU HAVE A LOVE CONNECTION WITH GOD, ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS LOOK AT HOW YOU TREAT OTHER PEOPLE. ALL THIS TALK ABOUT HOW YOU ARE SO MISUNDERSTOOD, THERE'S A REASON WHY SOME OF US HAVE SO MANY ENEMIES...

SOME OF US ARE WALKING AROUND HERE TALKING ABOUT.....

- 1. I DON'T KNOW WHY FOLKS DON'T LIKE ME.**
- 2. I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT ME.**
- 3. I DON'T KNOW WHY ALL THE KIDS IN MY CLASS WANNA JUMP ME AFTER SCHOOL.**
- 4. BUT IF YOU TELL YOURSELF THE TRUTH FOR A CHANGE, YOU KNOW MOST OF THAT DRAMA IS OF YOUR OWN DOING...**

YOU CAN'T KEEP GOING AROUND TALKING ABOUT FOLKS, AND EXPECT THEM TO NOT TALK ABOUT YOU.

YOU CAN'T BE TALKING ALL BIG AND BAD IN FRONT OF YOUR FRIENDS, THEN BE TRYING TO RUN HOME WHEN THE BELL RINGS.

NO, NO, ONE DAY, SOMEBODY'S GONNA RING YOUR BELL, AND YOU AINT GONNA HAVE NOBODY TO BLAME BUT YOURSELF.

BECAUSE THE TIME WHEN YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN A PEACEMAKER, YOUR MOUTH WROTE A CHECK THAT YOUR BEHIND WASN'T READY TO CASH...

THE PROOF IS NOT JUST IN SAYING "I'M A GOOD PERSON". THE PROOF IS IN TRYING YOUR BEST TO ACTUALLY BE A GOOD PERSON.

AND THE BEST INDICATION OF HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT YOURSELF, IS IN THE WAY YOU TREAT THE PEOPLE THAT YOU SEE EVERY DAY...

IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU'RE INSECURE, YOU'LL TEAR EVERYBODY ELSE DOWN BECAUSE YOUR SELF ESTEEM IS LOW.

THAT'S WHY WHEN I SEE HOW SOME OF US TREAT EACH OTHER IN THE CHURCH, AND HOW SOME OF US PUT OTHER FOLKS DOWN JUST TO BUILD OURSELVES UP, WHAT IT SAYS TO ME IS THAT I PASTOR, SOME MISERABLE AND CANTANKEROUS INDIVIDUALS, THAT WOULD SPEND ALL THEIR ENERGY TRYING TO TEAR SOMEBODY DOWN...

[1 JOHN 4:20] SAYS; "IF A MAN SAY, I LOVE GOD, AND HATETH HIS BROTHER, HE IS A LIAR: FOR HE THAT LOVETH NOT HIS BROTHER WHOM HE HATH SEEN, HOW CAN HE LOVE GOD WHOM HE HATH NOT SEEN? ²¹ AND THIS COMMANDMENT HAVE WE FROM HIM, THAT HE WHO LOVETH GOD LOVE HIS BROTHER ALSO".

JESUS SAID THAT HIS COMMANDMENT, IS FOR US TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AND THE RUBRIC BY WHICH WE MEASURE THAT LOVE, IS BASED ON PROOF OF HOW GOD LOVES US.

HE SAID LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.

THAT'S A NON-NEGOTIABLE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...

WHICH MEANS THEN, IF THIS CHURCH TRULY HAS THE LOVE OF CHRIST, THEN WE'LL LOVE THE SINNER AND TREAT THE SINNER, JUST LIKE JESUS WOULD DO IF HE WERE HERE.

YOU SEE, GOD DOESN'T JUDGE US ON HOW WE TREAT ANGELS. THAT'S TOO EASY. NO, HE WANTS TO KNOW, HOW DID YOU TREAT THE LEAST OF THESE WHEN THEY CAME THROUGH HERE...

IN OTHER WORDS, HOW DID YOU TREAT THE: CRACK ADDICT?

- **DRUNKARD**
- **UNWED MOTHER**
- **DEAD BEAT DADDY**
- **DIVORCED COUPLE**
- **UNRULY CHILD**
- **HOMOSEXUAL**
- **COMPULSIVE GAMBLER**
- **EX-CON**
- **ELDERLY**
- **HOMELESS**
- **FOLKS IN HAITI**

WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING TO THE LEAST OF THESE, JESUS SAID YOU'VE DONE IT UNTO ME!

THE PROOF OF GOD'S LOVE WASN'T JUST IN WHAT HE SAID. WE SAW IT IN WHAT HE DID.

HE SAID GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS; THAT A MAN WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.

JUST LIKE THE HEART IS A UNIVERSAL SYMBOL FOR LOVE, THE CROSS AND THIS TABLE ARE SYMBOLS OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US.

1. **EVERY TIME YOU SEE THE CROSS, YOU OUGHTA GET HAPPY.**
2. **EVERY TIME YOU THINK ABOUT 1ST SUNDAY YOU OUGHTA GET EXCITED.**
3. **BECAUSE THE MOMENT YOU GET THESE SYMBOLS ON YOUR MIND, IT OUGHTA SUMMON UP SOME MEMORIES, OF WHEN YOU AND THE LORD FIRST CONNECTED...**
4. **EVERY TIME I SEE THE CROSS, I'M REMINDED THAT HE LOVES ME.**

- **GET TO THE TABLE**
- **BREAK THE BREAD**
- **TASTE THE WELCH'S**
- **SEE A BIBLE**
- **READ THE SCRIPTURES**

WHEN I OPEN MY EYES IN THE MORNING, I'M REMINDED THAT JESUS LOVES ME.

- **STAND UP ON MY OWN TWO FEET**
- **WALK THROUGH MY HOUSE AND EVERYBODY'S ALRIGHT**
- **FLIP A SWITCH AND THE LIGHTS TURN ON**
- **PULL UP THE HANDLE AND WATER COMES OUT**
- **PUSH THE BUTTON AND THE TELEVISION TURNS ON**
- **SIT DOWN FOR GRITS AND EGGS**
- **WALK IN THE CLOSET AND LOOK AT MY CHOICES**
- **PUT IN MY KEY AND THE CAR STARTS**
- **GET ON THE ROAD AND MAKE MY WAY TO CHURCH**

WHEN I READ THE NEWSPAPERS, AND I WATCH THE LOCAL BROADCAST, WITH ALL THE PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT, I'M GRATEFUL BECAUSE I WAS ONE OF THE ONES WHO DID...

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU ALL FEEL ABOUT IT, BUT I GOT A REASON JUST BASED ON THIS MORNING'S BLESSINGS, TO GIVE GOD ALL THE PRAISE.

AND I DON'T KNOW HOW IT WAS FOR YOU, BUT WHEN I WAS GROWING UP, EVERY ONE OF MY RELATIONSHIPS HAD A SOUNDTRACK.

WHEN I WAS (4) YEARS OLD AND I GOT MY FIRST LITTLE GIRLFRIEND, THE SONG THAT STUCK IN MY HEAD WAS CALLED "PLEASE SEND ME SOMEBODY TO LOVE." BY PERCY MAYFIELD

- **11 YEARS OLD- "YOUR PRECIOUS LOVE" BY JERRY BUTLER.**
- **13- YEARS OLD, "WILL YOU LOVE ME TOMORROW" BY THE SHIRELLS.**
- **15- YEARS OLD, "I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU" BY RAY CHARLES.**
- **16 YEARS OLD, "WHERE DID OUR LOVE GO" BY THE SUPREMES**
- **20 YEARS OLD, "WHOLE LOT OF LOVING" BY LED ZEPPELIN**
- **21 YEARS OLD, "WHO'S LOVING YOU" BY THE JACKSON FIVE.**

ALL I'M TRYING TO GET YOU TO SEE, IS THAT EVERY RELATIONSHIP, OUGHTA HAVE A SOUNDTRACK.

AND WHEN A SINNER CONNECTS WITH JESUS, THERE OUGHTA BE A NEW SONG THAT'S PLAYING IN YOUR SPIRIT.

I'M TALKING ABOUT AMAZING GRACE...

- **WHAT A FRIEND**
- **THERE IS A NAME**
- **I LOVE THE LORD**
- **MY HOPE IS BUILT**
- **AT THE CROSS**
- **I WAS SINKING...**

BUT EARLY, ONE FRIDAY MORNING, HE DIED ON THE CROSS.

THEY BURIED HIM IN A BORROWED TOMB;

HE STAYED IN THE GRAVE ALL DAY FRIDAY; ALL NIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT; ALL DAY SATURDAY, AND ALL NIGHT SATURDAY NIGHT,

BUT EARLY SUNDAY MORNING, HE GOT UP WITH ALL POWER IN HIS HAND.

CONCLUSION

- I. **FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE THE PRINCIPLE OF LOVE. JESUS SAYS IN [VERSE 9], AS THE FATHER HATH LOVED ME, I HAVE LOVED YOU.**
- II. **THAT'S THE PRINCIPLE. AND ONCE YOU HAVE THE PRINCIPLE, YOU CONNECT WITH THE PATTERN OF LOVE...**
- III. **SO WE HAVE THE PRINCIPAL, AND WE HAVE THE PATTERN. AND THIRDLY AND NEXT TO LASTLY, WE HAVE THE INDELIBLE PROOF OF GOD'S LOVE.**

(IV). YOU GOT THE PRINCIPLE, AND YOU GOT THE PATTERN. AND AFTER THE PATTERN, YOU GOT THE PROOF, THEN YOU SEE THE PRODUCT.

HE PROVED HIS LOVE, BY DYING ON THE CROSS FOR US. AND THE PRODUCT, OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, IS MY WITNESS, AND MY TESTIMONY. “OH, HOW I LOVE JESUS...”

IF YOU WANNA KNOW, WHAT FAVOR LOOKS LIKE, JUST LOOK AT ME.

- **IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT PEACE LOOKS LIKE, JUST LOOK AT ME; THE PRODUCT!**
- **IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT DELIVERANCE LOOKS LIKE, JUST LOOK AT ME; THE PRODUCT!**
- **IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT REDEMPTION LOOKS LIKE, JUST LOOK AT ME; THE PRODUCT!**
- **IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT JOY LOOKS LIKE, JUST LOOK AT ME; THE PRODUCT!**

NEIGHBOR, “THIS JOY THAT I HAVE, THE WORLD DIDN’T GIVE IT TO ME.”