

"got unity? - Unified with the Father"

July 24, 2024

John 15:8-11 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

What is Love?

Love: is a complex emotion that can have many meanings, including a strong feeling of affection, attraction, or attachment to another person or thing.

John 12:24-25 *Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.*

Love: putting to death your self-interest for the interest of others.

Why do we Love?

1 John 4:19 *We love because he first loved us.*

Love & Want don't coincide.

- Peter
- David
- Unforgiving Servant

Phil 2:8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming <u>obedient</u> to the point of death, even death on a cross.

John 3:16 For God so <u>loved</u> the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

John 15:10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

Joy Comes Through Obedience

Joy: a feeling of great pleasure and happiness.

Joy: is an internal state of being, rooted in our soul's peace and communion with Christ.

Joy is a <u>result</u> of obedience (love) to God.

What is presupposed is that human joy in a fallen world will at best be ephemeral, shallow, incomplete, until human existence is overtaken by an experience of the love of God in Christ Jesus, the love for which we were created, a mutual love that issues in obedience without reserve. The Son does not give his disciples his joy as a discrete package; he shares his joy insofar as they share in obedience, the obedience that willingly faces death to self-interest. **D.A Carson**, "The Gospel According to John" *pg. 521*

