

LOVE



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Monthly Newsletter

LOVE, VALUES & PURPOSE

Dear Chosen One:

This month we celebrate Valentine's Day, a day when many people will demonstrate artificial love by doing and saying things that they don't really mean. Yet they are willing to do and say these things for one day to appease someone else. LOVE has become a trend that consumers use to promote their products instead of an **action word**.

Today, I want to speak to you about these three important things. **Love, Value and Purpose**. I believe that people who possess these three attributes are destined to succeed in life.

LOVE

The Bible tells us in 1 John 4:16 that God is LOVE. In the New Testament there are many verses that describe how and what love is, for example: Matthew 5:44 says, "**Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.**" Mark 12:30 says "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.**" Luke 10:27 says "**Love your neighbor as yourself.**" In John 14:15 Jesus says, "**If you love me, you will obey my command.**" In Acts 4:32 "**The believers demonstrated Love by sharing their possessions with each other.**" Romans 12:9 says "**Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil, cling to what is good.**" 1 Corinthians 13:2 says, "**You can have all the gifts, knowledge, and faith but without Love you are nothing.**"

So here is my question for you. How is your Love Life? And how are you treating others? Let's

start with yourself. When was the last time you looked into the mirror and told yourself that you love you! Love starts from within; you have to love yourself first before you can appreciate God's love and share it with others.

You can be friendly, nice, generous, smart, educated, go to church faithfully, and even preach the Word of God with hatred in your heart. Don't depreciate the love you have for yourself because of your past mistakes or because of where you are right now in your life. Moreover, don't allow anyone to define you by your past actions. God's love is unconditional. He looks at our hearts and not at our good works. When you sin against God, stop, repent, and ask Him to forgive you.

VALUES

Our values are moral principles that we set and live by. Christians are mandated to follow and live according to godly principles. Why? God has instructed us through His Word how to live our lives. Many individuals have lowered their values to fit in with the crowd around them. Anything the Bible tells us is Sin, we should not gravitate to, watch others do, or encourage others to do, and we should never partake in these things ourselves.

Moral values are important to live by, especially when we are doing business with others. Plus, they help us set integrity in our homes and church. Also, our values set us apart from others. When a person has an addiction, money becomes his or her core value-not the drug. That person needs money to buy the drug and he or she will steal, cheat, lie, hurt others, sell their body, or even kill to get

LIVE, LOVE, AND LAUGH!

Page 2

money to satisfy their momentary pleasure. The drug has altered that person's morals to the point that their loved ones and all the other important things have become less important. When a person has an addiction, getting high has become more important to that person than their family and friends. The greed for money has become the core value for many people in society.

Mark 8:36 says, "**What good is it for a man/woman to gain the whole world yet forfeit his/her soul?**" In this era many Pastors, Clergies, and Christians are compromising godly values by calling wrong right and overlooking sinful behaviors in order to avoid being rejected or ostracized. Some people are afraid to stand up for righteousness. They are afraid to publicly speak out about sin and are afraid to tell people that hell is a real place. They are afraid to tell people to repent and live Holy, and they are afraid to tell people that there is only One way to God, and it is through His Son-Jesus Christ. Remember, you and I will face judgment for our actions.

PURPOSE

What is your purpose? Oftentimes when you ask a person this question, he or she may respond by saying "**I don't know.**" You should know what's your purpose in life, know what God has created you to do, why you are here on earth, and what it is you should be doing right now.

God is a God of order and purpose. Everything He created has a purpose. In the beginning God created man and woman to bear His image, reflect His glory, imitate His actions, and speak His Word. (Genesis 1:27.)

Abraham's purpose was to be the father of many nations. (Genesis 15:4-6.) King David was destined to be king over Israel for God had created him and chose him for that purpose. (Read 1 Samuel 16:11-13). Mary's purpose was to carry Jesus in her womb for nine months and then give birth to Him. (Matthew 1:23.) The disciples' purpose was to go

and preach the Gospel to all the world. (Mark 16:15.)

The Gospel is a life demonstrating message. You can be in any profession and still preach the Gospel verbally or by letting your light shine. You may be operating in your purpose and don't even know it. If you are a good listener and you listen to people attentively-that could be your purpose. Listening is an art/gift that not too many people possess, so don't take it lightly or compare it to what someone else is doing. Your purpose *is not* to do what everyone else is doing. That is called follow-patterning. Your purpose should fit *you* like a glove.

For some women their purpose is to be mothers, and likewise, for some men their purpose is to be fathers. Therefore, it is the duty of each one of them to instill godly values into their children. Similarly, if you are a teacher, it is your duty to teach your students right from wrong. If you enjoy cleaning and putting things in order that could very well be your life's purpose. My brothers and sisters whatever your purpose - do it to the best of your ability and give God the glory!

If, after you have finished reading this message, you feel led to share it with someone else, do so. Don't keep this message to yourself. Share it with someone else.

It is time to revisit these three attributes and see if they are still active in your everyday life. If you know that you are lacking any or all of these attributes-please make the necessary adjustments. It is never too late to correct or make adjustments to areas in our lives when we become aware of them.

Regardless of what you think or what others may have told you, God loves you. You are still valuable to Him and you have a divine purpose to fulfill. In conclusion:

LOVE EACH OTHER. DEEPLY.(1 Peter 4:8)

LIVE BY GODLY VALUES (Luke 16:15)

FULFILL YOUR DIVINE PURPOSE (Romans 12:6).