

Torrey 1996. Relationship with God - The Lover Part 2

By David Currie

David Currie: Do you understand? She knows me, she understands me. She knows the agenda. And if you know Jesus and understand him, what he wants from people and what his agenda is, you start anticipating what God would want you to do before you would ask, before he even asks, rather. Love God is Tobias teaching, Noah's word, livest word.

If you have your Bible, please turn over to first, John. Can bless his heart, gave us a full package this morning, and according to the schedule, my time is up. But my dear brother said I could finish a little longer, but I'll try not to make it too much longer. But listen, first, John, chapter four. If you did a little study at first, John, chapter four, verse seven to chapter five, four, three or so, you'd realize that love appears approximately 15 to 20 times. This is a quick estimate as I glanced at the passage. I lied, it's twenty to twenty five times I did a quick count because I have every time the word love highlighted in my Bible.

But listen, you slide down to verse 19. We love because he first loved us. Anyone who says I love God, I do see if if I asked you, please stand up. Don't do this. Don't do this. If I asked you stand up. If you love God, we'd have ok. Yeah, I love God. And you of course have your version of what you think love God is right. But make sure your version matches the words version because I'd like to be best I have God tell us what it means to love God.

Let me do ok. I mean a ok. If anyone says I love God. Yet hates his brother, he is a liar, he's a liar. But what the fact that he loves God for who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, he cannot love God who is not seen, and he has given us this command. Whoever loves God must also love his brother. So there's now another connection. There's a connection here between loving God and loving people, just like there was a loving God and obeying God the along.

A little farther you can see evidence of this again. Chapter five, verse one. Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God and everyone who loves the father loves this child as well. This is how we know we love the children of God by loving God and carrying out his commands. Now check this out. This is love for God. Going to be clear. But look, this is love for God calling to obey his commands. This is love to God that you love people around you. Jesus said by this man, know that you're my disciples, that you really love me, that you love one another. It's the mark of a Christian. Somehow God's love to me requires that I embody love.

When I preach about this at length, I talk about a ten foot circle. Now most of the time our wingspan is the same. Distance is our height. So I'm six feet tall, so my hands are six feet apart right now. If you could imagine adding two feet on each side, two of my hands and it would be now a ten foot diameter. You see, I want you to imagine that whoever comes within your ten foot circle needs to be and deserve to be loved in Jesus name. Whoever comes within your ten foot circle needs to be and deserves to be loved in Jesus name. Because when it says love your neighbor, you know who the neighbor is. It's the person nearest you who needs you.

Don't complicate it. Well, who was my neighbor? And he's trying to make it complicated. And Jesus basically said the person who is nearest you that needs you, you love them, could be someone in your dorm that's hurting bad right now that needs you. You need to understand, if God gave us the grace to notice who comes within our 10 foot circle each day and we touched and cared for and listened to and loved and took time for those people within our ten foot circle, we'd be a community that's so radically demonstrated by love, it would just make people's heads spin.

How do you know you love God? I think to me, it means I am sensitive to God's will as demonstrated as word. Some of you who maybe are going to be taking some courses in administration and you might be getting a business administration degree here are those that are going to move into church leadership and know about working relationships in settings like that. You know that one of the good suggestions of an underling in an employer employee or in a he's my supervisor relationship.

I am the underling, as it were. In other words, my situation in my church where there is a senior pastor and I'm one of the executive associates. If you've done any work in this area, know that it's a very good principle to work hard to make your boss look good. If I can make my boss's job easier, there will be always room for me in that place of ministry. But if I create stress and rivalry, always competing, always trying, provincialism, or this is my thing, that's your thing.

If I and you and I need to be involved in life to make Jesus look good and to make Jesus job a lot easier sensitive to his will. What would you want me to do in the same book? First, John, chapter

two for six. It says this those who claim to live in heaven. And if I asked you the course, the tease this morning was you or the truly faithful because you're here on the winds or the Friday morning, you didn't even have to swipe your card through your just so hallelujah.

So you're sitting there in the category likely? Well, of course I claim to know God. I attend Biola. I mean, I am a Christian. But you claim to know God first, John says to verse six, you must walk, as Jesus did, sensitive to his will. There needs to be, if you really love God, a desire to please you in the same way that that Val anticipates what needs to get done, knows me well, knows what I have to do, knows my commission in life.

And she anticipates and she desires to have things done where I have to come in and have a nice girl. And I never thought of that, she says. I kind of thought, you're a little busy too, so I've looked after it. The last thing that I think will help me explain to you what it means to really love God is what matters most to him, matters most to me. What matters most to him matters most to me.

Do you ever start thinking about what what Jesus came for, Jesus came. His words were to seek and to save those that were lost. And somehow in life, no matter what your commission to be and do, no matter what your vocation is, somehow in life, you better be concerned about the things that matter to him if you really love God.

Driving to the airport with my 17 year old son Brock in my little eighty five Jetta, and he's driving away and I was telling a little story about when we were in Ireland, Scotland, England

and me. And one of my highlights over there was actually driving in Scotland some eight hundred to a thousand kilometers on the wrong side of the road with a car that's steering wheels over on this side of the to shift with your left hand. It is a scream and the roads are narrow. And I had a little sporty car and it was just like, oh, my foot up on the dash. It was awesome. And I remember the first few times I was shifting with the wrong hand and I'd be shoulder checking and looking at my wife.

Oops, wrong way, you know, and it's quite an experience. And I was just talking to them. How? Because my 10 and 12 year old, I'm letting them shift, learning how to shift in my car while I'm driving. OK, and so I said to Brock about this and I said, you know, it's almost as hard as is learning to shift left handed. And this is what he said. He said, well, I can shift left handed and well, he's never been over there.

I said, What do you mean? I said I said, Do you mean you cross over and shift? He says, Yeah. And I said, Well, what on earth? And he said, Well, it's with when I'm with Natalie, I don't want to let go of her hand. So I slide my knee up to hold a steering wheel and I shift left and it.

And I think the boy is like his father. You know what, though, I bring this little warm, fun story and at the end to say this, my son is willing to adjust his life for someone he loves. He's willing to adjust his life for someone he loves, can loving God be any more simple than that? Will you say to him, God, I will adjust my life because I love you and I wouldn't know your word. I want obey your word.

I want to be a person who spins your love no matter where I go. I'll even shift left handed if you want me to, because I'll alter anything to love you. Are you seeking God, I am drifting from God. I pray that your loving God. Let's pray together. Father, thank you so much for the student body, for the school, for what it stands for. Thank you for the opportunities here to grow and to consider your word.

Thank you for the Torrey Bible conference. And I pray, God, that you would have taken these words this day and put them on the platform. The foundation that's been built over the course of these people's lives shake down the truth that needs to be planted deep. And Lord, I pray that there'd be no doubt when people leave. I know what it means to love God. I'm loving him. More lives be different because we see those words in Jesus name.

Amen. Thank you very much. God bless.