

Love One Another

The kiss principle is as valid in an effective church organization scheme as it is in any other place. Keep it simple, stupid.

What Jesus calls us to do more than anything is to love one another. It's that simple. But it takes a lifetime of learning, and the divine influence of God's presence, to do this.

If there is any one thing which can change our life, it is love. God's love is higher than any human emotion, and he makes it simple as well. "Love me," He says.

Set a new and overarching goal for yourself to know and practice love more each day. In your relationships say and do things which show love. In your faith do the same thing. In God's family, learn what God's love really is.

You might say, I'm too young or too old to find out about this. The great thing about God is that he is ready at any time and any place to do something wonderful.

C.S. Lewis, a great theologian known as "the reluctant Christian," wrote "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." So, thinking, hoping, planning, dreaming, and doing, my friends? With God, the sky is the limit.

We might say that we are going to try and wait for the big moment. If we wait for that, we may be waiting our entire lives. Waiting is the death knell of Godly actions. So many of God's miracles were done in an inconvenient, difficult, dangerous moment, a time full of unknowns and unanswerable questions.

Immediacy is the stuff of miracles. Everything we do does not have to be big. Just take it from Alexander Graham Bell, or Walt Disney. Nobody remembers our faults them for the thousands of times they failed. When you see a Disney movie, or talk on your cell phone, think of them. For their failures turned into this society-transforming miracle. "Fail often, says Tom Kelley, "so you can succeed sooner."

Jesus charges his disciples to do many small things, and the world will be better. Love God, love one another. Then and violence and anger quotients go down by the multiple of the number of people who do this times the power of God. “Less is more. Keeping it simple takes effort.”~ Jeff Bullas

We must stop trying to make things complicated, and simply responding the call of Jesus to love one another. This means teaching the little ones, feeding the hungry, reaching out to those in need, and telling others that Jesus loves them.

Jesus says that his love is action. He showed this by coming down out of heaven to put his life on the line for us. Again and again he does something which means something. Sometimes it’s a glance or a word. Sometimes it’s a miracle. And then again, he dies for us on the cross. That was big, but it was simple.

Napoleon Hill built his life on doing small things which resulted in great success for him and others in America. He was one of the first personal success experts. But you can apply some of his principles to the spiritual realm.

One of his most famous principles was this. “If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.” And very close to it, on hesitation to act: “Don’t wait. The time will never be right.”

What impresses me above the content of the ideas Hill puts force, and don’t mistake me, the content is big is this. The sentence is short. The words are simple. But the meaning is profound.

That’s why Jesus talked about love instead of “an eternal manifestation of thoughtbearing which can longitudinally yield transformative and attitudinal and relational results” (a thought just to let you know I can use big words, but choose not to.”

That’s why he said to love others like he loves us. That’s why he says love one another. To lay down your life for your friends. That the greatest commandments are to love God and neighbor.

Christians, governments, and worlds have built layer after layer of commandments, rules, and codes, and pile them up so high that no one understands or even sees most of them. The key to unlock life here and in heaven is love.

God's love. Not the kind that built Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love. Not the kind that Cupid marks with careful aim of his arrows in romantic love. But the love of God. The kind which is a universal, unconditional. The type of love which transcends and serves regardless of circumstances.

Maybe it's time to open a monastery of old. Or perhaps the time is right to do something new, which has never been done before. In Christ we become new people who think and act more profoundly than we could on our own.

It begins, dear reader, with love. Love one another. Let God love them through you.