

MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER



God's Great Love Yes, God really loves us!

T thas been said that the power of love is what moves mountains. History proves that Love has remained the most popular subject for all of time. Out of all the other physical and spiritual emotions, love tops them all. This is why it has been the main topic of endless songs, books, movies, and every other form of media known to man. While most of these expressions are positive, many cast love as a negative thing and is to be avoided because of experienced heartbreaks that can occur to those who allow themselves to become vulnerable. The problem with this notion is that our bad experiences result from placing our trust and faith in another flawed person.

Yes, to truly love another person, we need to put a certain level of trust and faith in them, which is usually based on our past interactions. However, there should remain a limit because we must be reminded that none of us are perfect and make mistakes. If we were to be completely honest, we would admit that we often disappoint ourselves often by not doing what we promised or know we should be doing. I am not stating we should not trust or have faith in our spouses, family, friends, etc. Total trust and faith belong to the only One who is perfect and forever faithful in His promises. That person is none other than the LORD Jesus, our God and Creator of all things (John 1:1-3). "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him." (Colossians 1:16)

So, what exactly is LOVE, and how can we show it to others? The word of GOD needs to remain our source from where we seek all truth on every matter of life. Love is the central theme throughout the Bible's sixty-six books with only one author, the LORD. It is why GOD created mankind in the first place. Not that GOD needs our love, but desires for us to reciprocate the love He has shown towards us. There are numerous accounts of the LORD's great love saving His people repeatedly as an example of His patience. Although we are not living in the Old Testament, our salvation today hinges upon the **Love of GOD**. If you claim to be a saved, born-again Christ follower, then you have received His unfailing love. The Apostle Paul reminds the believers in Ephesus of the miracle that took place when they began to trust Jesus as LORD, which brought them from being dead in their sins to being <u>ALIVE in CHRIST</u>. "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the **great love** with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us *alive together with Christ*—by grace you have been saved—." (Ephesians 2:4-5) Many within the church around the globe quote Ephesians 2:8 to state our faith is what saves us. While this is correct to a point, the fact remains that it was **GOD's Love** that predicated our faith, which followed our hearing and understanding the gospel message (Romans 10:17). Because of this, we can understand the full message Jesus was teaching in the most memorized scripture of all time, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

Even in GOD's wrath, we can still find His mercy and love. GOD told us through the Apostle Paul that His wrath is stored up and coming because of those who remain defiant by rejecting the Love He has shown to every person (Ephesians 5:6; Colossians 3:6). This is why we are to live a crucified life, putting to death all fleshly desires and sins for which our LORD JESUS subjected Himself by way of the cross and sealed His position as Lord through His resurrection (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:5-8).

So, YES, we can boldly declare that **GOD really does love us** and has proven it by making a way for all of us to be saved (Rom.5:8). If you have not yielded to His great love, let today be the day of salvation for you. Pray and ask the LORD Jesus to forgive and save you, for He will do it as promised (Rom. 10:13).

May we Walk in that Love by extending the same to everyone we encounter.

Todd Childers

Come Join Us "On Mission"

- UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS -

UGANDA: Feb. 2-15, 2024

Come join us in the fields ready for harvest. <u>Focus</u>: Medical & Discipleship training. More information is on our website.

KENYA: June 6-18, 2024

Eocus will be on Medical with a priority on presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation to all. Planning still underway. For more info: Call Todd (540) 871-0517 or Email: todd@missionlink.org Visit: www.missionlink.org/mission-trips

Just Thirty (\$30) a month brings hope & provisions for a widow in need.

Introducing: JESSICA NAIWUMBWE 74 yrs old with two grandchildren.

Testimony: Thanks God for saving her from alcoholism and provided eternal life. Challenges: Lacks food, suffers from being too weak to work in the fields. *More widows are available on our website.* www.missionlink.org/widows

Have you visited our New Website? www.missionlink.org

This NEW website has many new features and can accommodate the numerous ministries we are focused on in both Uganda and Kenya. Our Widows Ministry has its own webpage, displaying widows available for adoption. (www.missionlink.org/widows) There is a simple Adoption Form to complete for sponsoring one of our lovely widows in Uganda. We are also <u>EXCITED</u> about our NEW DONATION page. Donors now have <u>numerous</u> methods to Give. Donors can also designate their gifts by selecting one or multiple purposes for their generous gift. **SHARE** our site with everyone.

Activities in East Africa because of YOUR generous support.



A few of our widows in Uganda gathered in Itukulu village for a time of devotion. They prayed for their Mission Link sponsors and for journey mercies of Todd and Rick as they travel to Uganda Sept. 20th.



Our recent outreach efforts on the islands of Lake Victoria were very successful. Not only did many adults come to know Jesus Christ as LORD, but here you see one of several small groups of precious children that heard the message of Hope found only in Jesus. They were excited to learn that GOD really loves and cares for them.

ATTENTION: CHURCHES, PASTORS, YOUTH GROUPS

If you would like to experience mission work in Uganda or Kenya, and benefit from Mission Link's +24 years of experience, *contact our office* to learn if we could assist in planning a special trip for your group. <u>One leader</u> of a group of <u>10</u> or more will have their trip covered by Mission Link!

Needs and Ongoing Projects

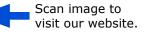
MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS: Our #1 objective is to make disciples that make disciples. Donations to MLI helps us to continue this work.

MEDICAL FUND: Gifts to this fund helps us care for the sick that lack the means to seek medical attention.

MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE: Giving to our Missions Fund helps us provide trip scholarships for many that want to "Go" but may lack funds. Several in **Uganda 2024** team **NEED** your assistance to GO. DEAF SCHOOL: Administrative expenses to pay teachers, feed deaf students, supplies, etc. This school enables deaf students to learn skills that gives them purpose as "Children of God." \heartsuit

GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES GIFTS of <u>ANY SIZE</u>, which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in Africa.





SPECIAL PROJECT:

ELDORET, KENYA: Southville Christian Primary School needs two additional classrooms. Cost: \$12,000

MissionLink All donations made this October WILL BE DOUBLED!

DONATE NOW

We are Extending this matching opportunity through October. Don't Miss Out on this chance to DOUBLE your gift to help build two needed classrooms to impact these children in Kenya. Mail donations to Mission Link or donate through our website, Select **Special Project** and **notate**. Remember, "nothing is impossible with God." *Luke 1:37*