

The Work of Pastors and Ministers

Notes by Franklin

Isaiah 5:13 Therefore **My people go into *exile for their lack of knowledge.** *(to denude or strip naked and lead away captive)

Hosea 4:6 **My people are *destroyed for lack of knowledge.**
*(to be dumb, to fail or perish; to be destroyed)

- **This should be Very Concerning to every Minister, to every Leader, to every believer. Because:**

Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (2 Cor. 11:14)

And **comes to steal and kill and destroy** (John 10:10).

Prowling around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8)

We are warned: **do not give the devil an opportunity.** (Eph. 4:27)

Sin not only gives the devil an opportunity but a legal right (Luke 22:31-32)

- **Every minister, every leader, every teacher has a large responsibility to those they are teaching.**

James 3:1 Let not many become **teachers** knowing that **we will incur a stricter judgment.** Ezekiel 44:10-14 Priests ministry limited for wrong teaching

Acts 20:27-32 For I did not shrink from declaring to you **the whole purpose of God.** ²⁸ **BE ON GUARD** for yourselves and for **ALL THE FLOCK**, which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which HE PURCHASED with His own **Blood.** ²⁹ I know that . . . **savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;** ³⁰ and from among your own selves **men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.** ³¹ Therefore be on the alert . . .

1 Peter 5:1-4 Therefore, **I exhort the elders among you . . . shepherd the flock of God** exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but voluntarily and not for gain, but with eagerness; not lording it over **those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.** ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. (See Revelation 3:11)

If you are teaching, by Word and example, you will deliver the LORD's people from darkness and from the one who "steals and destroys" (John 10:10) and lead them into the glorious light of liberty and BLESSINGS from the LORD.

Jeremiah 29:11-14 For I know **the plans** that I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for you to **PROSPER** and not for harm, to give you a **FUTURE** and a **HOPE**. ¹² Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you, declares the LORD

- Our Heavenly FATHER has **plans** and desires for each of HIS Children to **prosper**. The Hebrew word is "shalom"- health, prosperity, peace.
- If you want **your ministry, your church** to **PROSPER** you MUST do all you can to **make your people PROSPER**.

¹³ **YOU WILL seek Me and find Me when you search for ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART**.

¹⁴ **I WILL be found by you, declares the LORD HIS PROMISE !**

To know, receive and enjoy the Plans He has for us, we must be Praying – Seeking – Searching for HIM with "all your heart."

This is the work, the goal, and the responsibility of every pastor, every leader and every teacher –> to lead your people to "seek for HIM with all their heart."

The Question is – what will motivate a person to seek The LORD and His Kingdom with all their heart"?

What Motivates the actions of our Heavenly FATHER?

GOD SO LOVED the world that HE GAVE . . . HIS SON

We love HIM, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

The Motivation is LOVE. All of our teaching, training and work MUST BE TO BRING OUR PEOPLE TO A GREATER AND GREATER **LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST.**

LOVE --> GIVES --> THE Degree OF OUR LOVE is seen in
HOW and WHAT WE GIVE !
 of our self > our time > our treasure

As Paul told Timothy:

1 Timothy 1:5 The **goal** of our instruction is **love** from a pure heart and a **good conscience** and a **sincere faith**.

For where **your treasure is**, there **your heart will be** also
 Matthew 6:21

1Samuel 16:7 Man looks at the outward appearance, the LORD **looks at the heart**.

Matthew 13:44 The Kingdom of Heaven is like a **treasure** hidden in the **field** (the world vs.38) **which a man** (Jesus Christ) **found**; and from joy (Heb,12:2) **over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field** so that the treasure would be His.

The Heart of the Lord is with HIS TREASURE --> PEOPLE!

The Value of HIS Treasure is determined by the price He Paid to purchase. (1Peter 1:18-19 Revelation 5:9)

Luke 19:10 **For the Son of Man has come TO SEEK and to save that which was lost.** PEOPLE ! HE LOVES PEOPLE !

And now HE has given His Valuable Treasure into your hands to bring them to the full knowledge of Jesus, His Love and salvation.

JESUS said through the Prophet:
YOU WILL SEEK ME and find Me when you search for ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART.

LOVE Seeks -> We SEEK what we Love.

The More You can bring your people to LOVE the LORD JESUS the **MORE THEY WILL PURSUE HIM WITH ALL THEIR HEART.**

2 Tim 1:14 Guard . . . the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

As pastors and leaders WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT: **LOVE is a MAJOR QUALITY TO RIGHTLY SHEPHERD THE LORD'S FLOCK.** Love never fails . . . 1 Cor.13:8

John 21:15-17 Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? Yes, Lord; You know that I love You. HE said, Tend My lambs. ¹⁶He said again, . . . do you love Me? Shepherd My sheep. ¹⁷He said the third time, . . . do you love Me? Tend My sheep.

- Love alone qualifies you to pastor and teach !

The More You can bring your people to LOVE the LORD JESUS the **MORE THEY WILL PURSUE HIM WITH ALL THEIR HEART.**

Here is a good example of LOVE motivating a sinner to seek the LORD with all their Heart.

Luke 7:36-50 THE PHARISEE and the SINNER

Vs. 36-38 What Motivated her do this?

- **She knew JESUS ACCEPTED her and LOVED her.** cp. John 8:3+ maybe she was the same person. And read Dt.22:22 what about the man?
- The **RELIGIOUS** PEOPLE & the village people **REJECTED her**
- **JESUS DID NOT REJECT HER or Zaccheus** (Luke 19:5-10)
- **Religion Rejects & Judges. Love Accepts the person and meets their needs.**

Matthew 11:19 The Son of Man came **eating** and **drinking**, and they say, Behold, a **glutton** and a **drunkard**, a friend of tax collectors and **sinner**s.

They judged HIM & REJECTED HIM

Matthew 7:1 -5 **DO NOT JUDGE lest you be judged**

1 Corinthians 4:5 Therefore DO NOT go on passing judgment . .

John 7:24 Do not judge according to appearance, judge righteous judgment

Romans 2:1 Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls

Romans 14:13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore

Her **LOVE** MOTIVATED her actions and BLINDED her to:

- the fear of what other people thought of her.

Perfect love drives out fear 1Jn.4: 18 **Set her FREE !** Jn 8:36

- **her love of money**, and things, and future provision.

Her Love for JESUS: **Set her FREE !** Jn 8:36

- **She LOVED and was SEEKING only ONE THING -> The LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

For your people to GIVE MORE -> Help them LOVE More

Vs. 39-46

This is a CONTRAST of: (1) a **hard, religious heart** that judges and **rejects**, and a (2) **grateful heart** of **LOVE** that **GIVES** in worship, time and treasure.

- **Religion** hardened his heart and blinded him from seeing His Messiah.
- **Love** opened her eyes to SEE her Savior and acknowledge her sin.

Vs. 47-50 He said to the woman, **Your faith has saved you**

Her FAITH was motivated by her LOVE for JESUS.

faith working through love. Galatians 5:6 & James 2:18, 26

- **The More our Love Grows → The more our Faith Grows**
- The more we recognize how sinful we are, the more grateful we are, and **THE MORE OUR LOVE FOR JESUS GROWS.**
- **Faith & Works go together - when MOTIVATED BY LOVE.** James 2:20, 26

For your people to have Greater Faith → They need Greater Love

Proverb 16:2 The ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but **The Lord weighs the motives.**

1 Cor 4:5 The Lord will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and **disclose the motives of men's hearts**

Why we do what we do is More Important than **what** we do.

A person could say her uninvited intrusion into the Pharisee's home was wrong. But with JESUS, her motive made it alright. Can you think of other examples?

**The issue and the Most Important & Primary thing is →
OUR LOVE FOR JESUS !**

A LOVE for JESUS will take care of all the concerns and problems a pastor encounters with his people.

1 Timothy 1:5 The **goal of our instruction** is **love** from a **pure heart** and a **good conscience** and a **sincere faith**.

Our Love for Jesus is determined by:

- (1) How **clearly** we see **HIS cross** and the **LOVE** that **took** HIM there, and the **LOVE** that **held** HIM there for our redemption.
- (2) And how **clearly** we see our sin that **sent** HIM there.

The Measure of our LOVE for Jesus determines:

1. How repentant we are. (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
(how much sin we turn from and come to Jesus to forgive)
2. How bold we are before others (she was very bold)
3. How EXTRAVAGANT our worship is (her worship was exceedingly extravagant)
4. **How extravagantly we GIVE** of our self & our treasure

For your people to GIVE MORE -> Help them LOVE More

YOU WILL KNOW HOW MUCH A PERSON LOVES THE LORD BY THE WAY THEY GIVE IN WORSHIP & APPRECIATION.

The DEGREE of our LOVE / OUR APPRECIATION for another is measured or seen by what we do for them!

Both for the Lord . . . and . . . for our wife or husband
Matthew 7:20 you will know them by their fruits.

When we help people understand this -> How Much JESUS Loves them -> How Valuable they really are -> THEY WILL SEEK THE LORD.

1 John 4:19 We love, because He first loved us.

So the Question is: **How Much does HE Love us?**

And the answer is best seen and learned from the following: Thoroughly Teach these verses to your sheep.

Philippians 2:5-11

- WHY WOULD HE DO THIS??? BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU !!

Colossians 2:13-15

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Revelation 5:9

Isaiah 53 The Suffering Servant

Your Preaching and Teaching will be received and lived to the degree that they LOVE the LORD and HIS WORD.

To the degree that they UNDERSTAND how Much HE LOVES them, His LOVE will CAPTURE their hearts and minds, and they will LOVE & SEEK THE LORD.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 For the **love of Christ CONTROLS us**, (captures us, compels us) **having concluded this**, (we must completely come to this conclusion) that One died for all, **therefore all died** (I died!) ¹⁵ and HE died for all, **so that** they who live might **NO LONGER LIVE FOR THEMSELVES**, but **FOR HIM** who died and rose again on their behalf.

This is the CHALLENGE, the GOAL for every pastor & leader – to do all we can to OPEN THE HEARTS of our people to the LOVE OF JESUS. This is making disciples.

Jeremiah 29:13 **You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me WITH ALL YOUR HEART.** ¹⁴ **I will be found by you**, declares the LORD.

Very few believers really “seek the LORD with all their heart.”

Why? As pastors and teachers we are not focused on THE MAIN THING → **LOVE**

1John 4:8 **He that does not love, does not know God, for God is Love**

1 Corinthians 13: vs.8 **Love never fails** vs.13 **now abides faith, hope, love, these three; but THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.**

A Love for JESUS will produce the **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT** in the life of your sheep. love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

The Fruit are NOT DEVELOPED BY OUR EFFORTS.

They are developed by the HOLY SPIRIT.

Ephesians 3:14-19 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father . . . that HE would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be **strengthened with power** through His Spirit in the inner man, **so that** Christ may have a home in your hearts through faith; and that **you**, being **ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE**, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and **to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.**

The more we LOVE HIM the more we will abide / live in HIM

John 15:4 **Abide in Me, and I IN YOU.** As the branch **CANNOT BEAR FRUIT OF ITSELF** unless it abides in the vine, so **NEITHER CAN YOU** unless you abide in Me.

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit, for APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.**

Everything in our Christian life BEGINS and ENDS -> MOTIVATED and determined by:

OUR LOVE FOR OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

A Love for JESUS will Motivate your people to PRAY !

Jesus became a man – lived as one of us.

WHEN did He commune with His Father???

Mark 1:35 In the **early morning, while it was still dark**, Jesus got up, left the house, and went to a secluded place, and was praying

1. **The time that Jesus prefers – EARLY MORNING**
2. **When did HE begin His Teaching?**
 Luke 21:38 And all the people would get up **early in the morning** to come to Him in the temple **to listen** to Him.
3. **The first one to see** the resurrected Lord.
 John 20:1 & 14 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came **early** to the tomb, **while it was still dark**
4. **When did God walk with Adam?**
 Genesis 3:8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the **cool of the day**
5. **The lesson of the manna.**
 Exodus 16:12-14, 18, 21 **in the morning** you will be filled with **bread**. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.
6. **The Altar of Incense** Incense is a type of our prayers.
 Exodus 30:7-8 Aaron **must** burn fragrant incense on it; he **shall burn it every morning** when he trims the lamps. . . .There shall be perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

 Revelation 8:3-4 Another angel, who had a golden censer . . . was given much **incense** to offer with the **prayers** of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. (4) The smoke of the incense together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.
7. **The priest brings the fire to full blaze.** Leviticus 6:12-13 **The fire on the altar** shall be kept **burning. It shall not go out**, but **the priest shall burn** wood on it **every morning** (13) **Fire shall be kept burning continually** on the altar; **it is not to go out.**

 Matthew 3:11 He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
8. **First fruits belong to the Lord.** Proverb 3:9 Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops
9. **David was a man after the heart of the LORD. Why?**

 Psalm 5:3 In the **morning**, O LORD, You will hear my voice;
 In the **morning** I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch.

Psalm 57:8 **Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.**

Psalm 63:1 God, You are my God; **Early will I seek You**; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You

Psalm 90:14 **O satisfy us in the morning** with Your lovingkindness, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

Psalm 119:147 **I rise before dawn** and cry for help; **I wait** for Your words.

10. Song of Solomon 7:12 **Let us get up early . . .**

Let us rise early and go to the vineyards; let us see whether the vine has budded and its blossoms have opened, and whether the pomegranates have bloomed. **There I will give you my love.**

HE is calling YOU to the GARDEN . . . HE wants to walk with YOU early every morning just as HE did with Adam and Eve.

HE wants to give YOU HIS LOVE. HOW will You Answer?

What Will You Do? What do You Want ?

HE waits every Morning for YOU.

A Love for JESUS will Motivate your people to

READ and STUDY HIS Word !

John 14:15 If you **love Me**, you will keep My commandments.

John 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them is **the one who loves Me**; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.

John 14:23 If anyone **loves Me, he will keep My word**; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

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.

1 John 5:3 For this is **the love of God**, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

2 John 6 And **this is love**, that **we walk** according to His commandments.

A good example is David's Love for The Word of GOD. Psalm 119

A LOVE for JESUS will give your people the right MOTIVATION to live a Righteous live because they will want to "Please the LORD."

Romans 13:8-10 Owe nothing to anyone except to **love one another**; for **he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law**. ⁹ For this, "you shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not covet," **and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."**
¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore **LOVE IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW**.

1 Corinthians 13:13 Now faith, hope, love, abide; but

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.

1 Corinthians 2:9 EYE HAS NOT SEEN and EAR HAS NOT HEARD, and has not entered the heart of man, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED . . . **FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM**.

Hebrews 10:24-25 let us consider how to stimulate one another to **love and good deeds**

1 Timothy 1:5 The **goal of our instruction is love** from a **pure heart** and a **good conscience** and a **sincere faith**.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have **love**, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to

remove mountains, but do not have **love**, I am **nothing**. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have **love**, it **profits me nothing**.

My Prayer for You: Ephesians 3:14-20

For this reason I bow my knees before The FATHER . . . (17) . . . that you, being **rooted** and **grounded** in **love**, (18) may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth (19) to know the **Love of Christ** which surpasses knowledge, **that you may be filled up to all the fullness of GOD.** **GOD IS LOVE** (1 John 4:8)

Amen