



## Sacrificial Love

Handout June 9, 2023

Okay, here we go! Welcome back. Tonight, we are talking about *sacrificial love* --- or in other words, having such love that you are willing to make sacrifices!

*Sacrifice*: "to suffer loss of, give up, renounce or destroy, especially for an idea or belief."

1) Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Romans 5:6-8** *'For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'*

Jesus literally gave His life for yours. You might say He suffered loss! How do we follow that example?

We lay down our lives! If you have been around here very long, you have heard my teaching on *LIFE*:

**Literal** = Time      **Figurative** = Activities      **Spiritual** = Focus

What do you sacrifice for?    Who do you sacrifice for?    Under what conditions would you sacrifice?

**John 3:16** *'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.'*

2) For God \_\_\_\_\_ the world...!

- Love:
- ❶ To hold dear; to cherish
  - ❷ An intense feeling of deep affection
  - ❸ A great interest and pleasure in something ("I love the Bible!")

Biblically, there are four types of *love* described:

- a) Agape
- b) Storge
- c) Phileo
- d) Eros

AGAPE describes God's *sacrificial love* for us. It is also the love He desires, even longs for us to offer Him.

**John 21:15-16** *'So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."*

3) *Sacrificial love* \_\_\_\_\_ action!

In a husband/wife relationship, sacrificial love is required if you want a healthy relationship. If you research this topic, you will find lots of examples:

- Supporting through difficult times
- Making compromises for well-being of relationship
- Making personal sacrifices to ensure happiness of loved one.

To me, there is no greater love relationship than mine with God and I reflect my love for God by loving people!

***Ephesians 5:1-2 'Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.'***

4) We \_\_\_\_\_ God by \_\_\_\_\_ one another!

I like to think that everything I do is a reflection of my love for people. I sacrifice most of my time/life for people, but let me tell you something ---- *sacrifice* --- if done in love ..... is a pleasure --- even a joy!

Service SHOULD make us happy. My challenge to you: ***Sacrifice more!***

5) It is not really a \_\_\_\_\_ if it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ you anything!

So, what are the characteristics of *sacrifice*? Selflessness, empathy, compromise, patience, forgiveness, and commitment.

I have been talking about our relationships with people, but, we cannot sacrifice if we do not have this relationship with God!

***Romans 12:1 'I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.'***

A person's relationship with God can be so shallow at times --- no sacrifice really --- just the habitual study and worship that takes up a few minutes each day or a couple hours through the week.

6) Growth will \_\_\_\_\_ true *sacrifice!*

You must give up the time you are giving to other things, in order to spend more time with God!

What about the other John 3:16?

***1 John 3:16 'By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.'***

Once we learn to lay down our lives for a relationship with God, loving people becomes so much easier!

I am challenging you: Join our Discipleship class or Tuesday Bible Study. If that is too big a sacrifice, ask about studies to take home. You know in the last three months I have offered handouts on "Grace", "Faith-Rest", "Sin" and "Ruth". I have had two people take one home!

Either there is no interest, or I am asking wrong. Tonight, I am offering two pages on *Love*. Take it and read it. Write a page to me on what you learned.

Yes, this requires time, commitment, and sacrifice. It is not for me; it is for you. Learn more about *sacrificial love!*

Thank you for being here tonight.

Face of Grace  
5407 Palm Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95841  
Mailing: PO Box 3975, Citrus Heights, CA 95611  
[FaceOfGrace27@gmail.com](mailto:FaceOfGrace27@gmail.com)  
<https://faceofgrace.biz>  
916-993-8213