

## Standing Up for Your Rights

Having enjoyed dinner for Valentine's, a young wife was now upset with her husband as they remained waiting in the rain. She cried, "You both arrived at the cab at the same time. Why did you let him have it? Why didn't you stand up for your rights and get us out of this rain?"



The husband quietly replied, "He needed it more than I did. He was late for His karate class!"

## Small Blessings

A tired husband was escorting his wife to a concert and they arrived late. As they took their seats, he whispered to his neighbour, "What are they playing?"



"The Fifth Symphony," replied the man.

"Well, thank goodness," sighed the husband. "I've missed four of them."



## How True it Is

Adolescence brings its own set of interesting changes. For instance, between the ages of 12 and 17, youth may see their parents age 20 years. And, after 18, an adolescent will leave for college and return four years later amazed by how much his parents have learned!

## Aptitude Test

A man sat at the table toying with his food, his head in his hands, obviously distraught.



His wife asked him what was troubling him so much?

He told her, "You know those aptitude tests we've been giving at the office? Well, I took one today, just for fun. It didn't go so well!"

His wife smiled and said, "Then it's a good thing you own the company!"

## What Do You Say?

It's not always easy to say the right thing on the spur of the moment. We can sympathize with the chap who met an old friend after many years.

"How's your wife?" he asked.

"Oh, I'm sorry," stammered the chap. Then he realized this wasn't the thing to say. "I mean," he stammered, "I'm glad." That seemed even worse so he blurted, "Well, what I mean is, I'm surprised."



**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

**Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!**



# GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

*First Baptist Church Strathroy*

Strathroy, Ontario N7G 1T5 519-245-0291 / 519-317-8659 (cell)

[firstbaptistchurchstrathroy@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistchurchstrathroy@gmail.com)

[www.FirstBaptistChurchStrathroy.ca](http://www.FirstBaptistChurchStrathroy.ca), Edited by Pastor Dave Adams



## Love from Jesus

This Christian Valentine message supplies you with love I got from Jesus,

love I learned in the gospels,  
found in His words,  
His actions, His example.

This Christian Valentine saying conveys love I did not have before I was saved, couldn't connect with or understand before I gave my entire life to the Lord.

On Valentine's Day,  
realize that I love you and want to lift you up, encourage you and also serve you.

Happy Valentine's Day!



BY BRITYKING

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Where Christ is cherished, family is loved & everyone is family!



*Sunday, 11 a.m. Services.*

**20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario**

**Thot:** "What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like."

~ Augustine

## A Troubling Proposal

Young Mickey looked with expectancy at Minnie and said, “Marry me, darling! I know I haven’t got buckets of money like my friend Dan, or a hot film career like Dan, or his good looks, youth, terrific sense of humour, or muscles. But I’m loyal and true and I love you and I will forever!

Minnie was silent for a moment then responded, “I love you too, honey...but please tell me more about Dan!



## Window Shopping

A man was watching a football game when his wife returned from the mall, loaded down with bags. “I thought you were only going window shopping” he said.

“Yes,” his wife responded, “I bought the curtains for the kitchen window, but I got a few things that match them; a can opener, coffeemaker, blender...



## Something to Think About...

*“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.”* [1 John 4:7]

What does God say about His unending love? Perhaps His love is best demonstrated in that *“God demonstrates His own love for us: While we were sinners, Christ died for us”* [Romans 5:8]. 1 John 4:8 even refers to God as love.

God loves you simply because He loves you. You don’t have to work for His affection. You don’t have to get yourself right before God can shower His love over you. God absolutely loves you without anything you can do to win His love. Because our amazing God is not only love but God is Spirit by His essence, He is ever present. He isn’t flesh and blood bound by time and space. Call to Him at any moment, in every situation and God hears you and will be there for you. This God who is love and Spirit is also light and brings light that you should not stumble. God demonstrated His light in His Son, Jesus Christ who is the True Light that gives light to everyone, who has come into the world.

It’s hard to get our minds around, but it’s true. *“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life”* (John 3:16). This is a well-known Bible verse. You may have seen it displayed on billboards or while watching a ball game – Tim Tebow used to have the reference printed on his brow in black. It’s God’s confirmation that He, the God who is love, loves you.

If you’ve never considered that you’re so deeply loved by the Creator of all things, then this is where your faith journey can begin. Simply accept that God loves you. Without an assurance of God’s love, our faith journey doesn’t last long. Fortunately, there’s no force more powerful than the love our heavenly Father has for us, His children. His love can move mountains, stop the roaring seas, heal broken bones and wounded hearts, transform lives, and set free those held captive by sin and shame. So great is His love for you and me that He sent

His only Son to die that we might live through Him.

God is no angry taskmaster who shows affection only when you succeed. Neither is He a tyrannical parent never extending compassion or understanding. God is a loving Father who’ll always love you no matter what, who’ll lift you up, and who’ll lead you in the way you should go.

Much is said about love in our society today that bears no resemblance or relationship to the holy, spiritual love of God. Yet we can find banners proclaiming “God is love” hung amid festivals that celebrate anything goes, doing what “feels good”, everyone doing their own thing. Dare anyone dignify immorality, living contrary to the nature of God, by labeling it “love”? Never!

When we confess our allegiance to Christ and take on the title of “Christian” – one who belongs to Christ – we commit to love that is a special kind of love. 1 John 4:10 can be translated: “In this way is seen true love”, not with selfish desires, wanton disregard for purity, holiness and honour, not for dismissal of the precepts of our loving God, but love that is born out of the very essence of God – spiritual, holy, following the example of Jesus Christ. This is true love, poured out within your hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us”

[Romans 5:5 NASB].

Take time to receive the depth of His love for you today. Allow His love to heal you, transform you, free you, and lead you to the abundant life He has always longed to give. If you’ve never made a commitment to read the Bible, start today. It is God’s love letter to you. You will discover the character of God and find the depths of His love. If you don’t have a Bible and would like one give Pastor Dave a call at 519-317-8659. Then begin to read, meditate and pray over verses found throughout His Word about God’s love as you walk in faith each day.

Foremost you’ll discover that love is the valid litmus test of Christian faith. It is

anchored in God who is love, and since we have claimed a personal relationship with Him, we must of necessity reveal His love in all we say and do, in how we live, and in how we treat one another.

The Good News is you are not on your own for the Lord is always with you. As He told Joshua many years ago, so too you have His Word: *“Be strong, courageous; do not be afraid; never be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”* [Joshua 1:9]

Knowing this, all who are born again in His perfect love ought to love one another – the logic is unquestionable!

## Mark Your Calendar!

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – Communion

Feb 10<sup>th</sup> – Men’s Breakfast (8:30 a.m.)

**Wednesdays 1:30pm**

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks’ Café)

**161<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Service**

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> @ 11 a.m.**

Special Guests – Wayne & Wendy Lockyer

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday

Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Series starts



**Message Series**

**Life in Christ**

**All Welcome!**