

August Development Guide

SUBJECT: LET LOVE LEAD



Let Love Lead isn't just a fancy saying or slogan. It's a major driving force behind everything we do here at Victory to reach people, with God's unconditional love. God's Unconditional love transforms everyone it touches. It energizes our lives, directs our church culture, and sets our strategy. We don't lead people into the kingdom, we LOVE them into the kingdom.

Love also pushes us past our own wants and desires, and sometimes even our responsibilities, to meet the needs of others.

Jesus told us that the most important commandment is to love the Lord our God with all of our hearts, soul, and mind. And the second, is to Love your neighbor as yourself.

1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. This scripture tell us that Love comes directly from God. In fact, God is love. The two DON'T and CAN'T exist without each other. It's His nature and character to love.

One of the key elements to identify if someone is a mature Christian is how they love. And not just how they love God, but by how they love others.

Main Takeaways:

1. SERVE SOMEONE ELSE'S NEED, BEFORE YOU SERVE YOUR OWN

Philippians 2:3-5

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Someone who serves, loves, and someone who loves, serves.

Just like Jesus, we should never be expecting for people to serve us. Instead, if you put others first and you serve their needs, you can have confidence to know that God is faithful and will supply all of your needs according to his riches and glory. God honors those who love and serve others.

2. THERE IS NO ROOM FOR PRIDE IN LOVE

C.S. Lewis once said "For pride is spiritual cancer: it eats up the very possibility of love, or contentment, or even common sense."

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The further we dive into pride, the further we drive ourselves away from God.

Hebrews 12:29 says “God is an all consuming fire.”

If there is anything that can purify our hearts from pride, it's the all consuming fire of God's powerful love for us.

3. LET YOUR HEART BE SATURATED BY GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU

1 Corinthians 16:14, in the AMP version reads - Let everything you do be done in love [motivated and inspired by God's love for us].

If our hearts are not saturated with Gods love, if we do not know what His word says about His love for us, when the storms of life come and the wind and the waves are raging deep within us, the things that we tried to remember after reading once or twice will be washed out and forgotten. We won't have a firm foundation to stand on because we haven't allowed our hearts to soak in His love. We haven't absorbed His word like we should have. In other words, you can't give out what you haven't put in.

Challenge:

Let the love of God saturate your hearts so that you, in turn, can pour out that love on others. Be the rivers of living water that he has called you to be. And remember, we don't lead people into the kingdom. We love them into the kingdom.