

CHAPTER 1

Love

Me: God.

God: Yes son.

I love You.

I know. I love you too.

I wish to love You more. I wish my love for You to be purer and stronger. How may this be done?

Learn of love.

Teach me about love.

I Myself **AM** love. Whenever you speak of love in the proper context, you speak of Me.

I have read that God is love.

Yes, and I meant it literally. Let Me give you some examples.

Okay.

Let us substitute several different statements in place of the word love and perhaps you will understand its true meaning. First, give Me an example using the word love in a sentence.

Okay. "I love Gail."

Now, substitute the phrase, feel and act the same way as God Himself does toward for the word love.

All right. I feel and act the same way as God Himself does toward Gail. Hmmm. You mean since You always feel and act out of love, because You are love, whenever I love I am just imitating what You would do?

In a way, yet it is not imitation. It is the natural way to feel and act—**with** love. Do this now: substitute act naturally toward for the word love.

All right. “I act naturally toward Gail.” So love is just acting naturally?

Yes, only it’s not an act in the sense of being phony. Remember, it is the natural way to feel and treat a person. The word act here may be difficult for you. Use the word treat instead.

So it’s, “I treat Gail naturally.”

Yes.

But what does that mean? What actions does love—or do You, being love—do?

See, already you begin to understand clearly. **I AM** love. Whatever love does, I do.

It pleases me to know that I am catching on. But explain what You—Love—does. If I know what love—God—does, then I may be more able to love properly; or as You put it, “be more able to feel and treat people the way God Himself would.”

All right, here is something valuable for you to write down and pass on to others—too many have forgotten the activity of pure love that they knew as a child. **Love does two things:**

Love takes care of true needs.

Love gives pleasure to what it loves.

Simple, easy.

You mean that since You are love itself, **this is all that You do?**

Yes, I do two things only. These two things I have always done, for I have always been love itself. I will always do these in the future also, on into eternity. I do not have to do it—I choose to do it; for it is My nature to love—and I always do what comes naturally to Me.

So You, as God—as love—only take care of needs and give pleasure?

Yes, I love you. That is, I have the same feelings and actions as God Himself does toward you. Naturally, because I am your God. Stated another way, I act naturally toward you; I love you.

Does this mean that whenever I take care of another person's needs or give them pleasure that I am loving them?

Yes, so long as your motives are pure and the actions are appropriate.

You mean if I gave food to another person that needed it, but I only did it so that he would be indebted to me, that wouldn't be an act of love?

Correct, because your intention was selfish. Love is never selfish because **I am never selfish**.

Oh, I see! Whatever applies to You also applies to love—because You are love! And whatever applies to love also applies to You! **That's fantastic!**

Thank you. It pleases Me to see you really getting clear on this. I love you deeply, My son.

And I love You all that I can; yet, I know that I can love You better. Can I love You more?

Herein lies a dilemma and the biggest problem facing all of mankind since the dawn of man.

Oh, this sounds serious. What dilemma?

You cannot love Me as you now are.

How can You say that? I do love You! I would willingly die for You! You know that!

Yes, I do.

Well then, how can You say that man cannot love You?

Man can, only because I have provided a way. Hold on for a minute and calm yourself.

Now, what did I say love does?

You said love takes care of needs and gives pleasure.

Yes.

So?

So, what needs of Mine do you fulfill?

You don't need anything! You're God!

I know; do you understand?

Yes. So that means that I can't fulfill any of Your needs because You don't have any.

Right, and...?

Yes, but don't we give You pleasure?

Often you please Me; however, I am God—My joy and pleasure is infinite and complete at all times. Nothing can lower the amount of joy I have at any time. I am always completely full of joy.

But that's not fair. If You don't have any needs and we can't make You happier, then that means that we can't love You!

Not directly—not as you now are.

What do You mean by as we now are?

I mean in your fallen state. Before the Fall, man could love Me directly. We had open lines of love communion. Then, man cut himself off from My love. Man fell from My love.

I thought man fell from Your grace?

Yes. My love is grace. Whenever a person receives My grace, he receives My favor, and My favor is bestowed out of My love. It is an action of love. Doesn't grace take care of needs and give pleasure?

Yes.

Then it is an act of My love.

If we are fallen from Your love and can't love You directly as we now are, how can we fix this? Does this mean that we can't love You?

No. I have provided a way.

Teach me the way.

I AM. All that is—**I AM.** Whatever is powerful, noble, beautiful, and good—**I AM.** My presence, which is called life, is very close and intense inside of each person. Within each of you, **I AM.** Even though you may not be able to sense Me within your personality, which has been called soul and spirit, **I AM** closely and intensely present within you. Whatever good there is within you—**I AM.** For **I AM Good.** Outside of Me there is nothing that is good. So **I AM** the good and life within a person.

Wait a minute. You said that life is just Your presence, and soul and spirit really mean personality. Please explain these if You will. I want to be clear.

I will explain soon. Let us stay on the first subject for now. I realize that you are impatient to know everything.

Okay. I'll be more patient.

Let's see, You said that You are Good and You are the life within us.

Yes.

So that means that You are really present inside of each person.

Yes, and in so powerful and close a way that you may have trouble comprehending it. Let it be enough for now to accept that **I AM** within each person as the very core of their life and goodness.

Okay, I knew that before but I don't think I understood it quite as well as now.

I said this: "I will say to one person, 'I was hungry and you gave Me some food; I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink.'"

Yes, I remember the story. But You meant that they had done that thing to another person, right?

Right. Do you understand this?

Yeah, pretty clearly. But that means the bad as well as the good, doesn't it?

Yes.

You mean that every person I meet is really You in disguise?

(Chuckles.) No. Not in disguise, and they are not me. Yet, **I AM** fully present within that person. I have made you accountable for your motives and actions toward your neighbor in order to provide you with a way in which—once again—you may love Me.

Does this mean that if I am unkind or bad toward anyone that You're going to accuse me of doing that to You?

No. You have several misconceptions. Let Me clarify them one at a time.

Okay.

First, I would never accuse you of anything, even though I knew full well what you have done. I love you. Love does not make accusations! Experience this and know My love for all of you...

(Here, I was put into an experience of the woman about to be stoned for adultery and Jesus saved her [John 8:1-12.] I will not recount all of it here. The main point was that Jesus would not accuse her of her sins. He told her, "I accuse you of nothing.")

Wow! That's super! But does that mean that You don't care what we do?

No, I care very much; I just won't **accuse** you of your sins.

Does that mean that we're all home free? Without any accusation there isn't any trial, correct?

Correct. However you will be accused—just not by Me.

Let me guess who will accuse us—**Satan**.

Right. He is the accuser.

Okay, I see now.

Returning to the original subject: you will not be judged on whether you have treated every person you come in contact with as if they were Me.

Which ones will I have to treat as if they were You? I really need to understand this fully because a lot of things hinge on this, don't they?

Yes. The examples of how judgment will be made to determine a person's eternal place was based solely on how he had treated his neighbor.

Okay, I get the importance of this. Who is my neighbor that I must treat as if he were You?

(Here, I was put into an experience of the Good Samaritan story, and, as before, I will not recount it all here. Please look it up [Luke 10:25-37] before you continue reading because it is important that you understand what my neighbor meant.)

Do you see? I was asked the same question: Who is My neighbor that I must love as Myself? And this was My answer: Your neighbor is he who treats you with love.

So You mean that if a person takes care of me or gives me pleasure, then however I treat him, it will be as if I treated **YOU** that way.

Yes. You are obligated to treat Me with love whenever I come to you personally within another person.

But it's not really You; it's just some kind or helpful person.

No, **it is really Me**. Remember, whatever good is within a person is truly Me. Whenever a person loves another, it is the goodness within them doing the loving.

And You are that goodness.

Right. In essence, I love you through that person. I give him his life with My presence within him; I allow him to show Me (love) to you if he chooses to. The love that you have and express to another person both comes from Me and **IS ME!** Always remember: **I AM Love!**

So a person that is not loving me—that is, a person that is not willing to take care of my needs or give me any pleasure—is not revealing **You** (love) to me. So he's not **BE-ing YOU** to me.

That's correct. If he does not love you, then he is refusing to feel and act the same way as God Himself would toward you. Hence, he is not being Me (love) to you. I will not hold you accountable for your treatment of him as if he were Me, because I would not do the things

he might do to you. I don't expect you to treat someone as if they were Me when they treat you with suspicion, anger, or hatred, for I would not treat you in that way. I love you.

I see. Dad?

Yes.

I love You more now, I think.

How?

I am clearer on what You wish for me to do. I will put forth great effort to love You more through loving my neighbor better.

This is good; it pleases Me that you are willing.

Will You teach me more?

Yes. What do you want to know?

Everything!

In time, I will teach you all that you wish to know, so long as you are willing to listen and it is good for you to learn. Be more specific for now. What do you want to learn now?

I wish to know the truth!

You know it already.

Do I? What is the truth?

I AM!

Oh, yeah. You are a lot of things. Well, if You are truth itself, and You are love, then truth is love?

Well, those are simply different aspects of Me.

How do You mean?

Whatever exists, exists in Me. I created it, I sustain it, and I move it. Except for personal beings—spiritual beings with free will—I guide, control, and work everything.

Okay.

There is a **TRUTH**. This simple TRUTH is the underlying principle behind all things. I was asked, "Why have You come?" and I answered that I came to testify to **THE TRUTH**. And I also said that anyone **COMMITTED** to the TRUTH, hears My voice.

You mean that anyone can really hear Your voice, as You have permitted me to hear You and talk with You?

Well, I didn't permit just you. I permit anyone to hear Me; the problem is that most people just won't listen or are not willing to pay the price for clear casual conversation with Me.

What is the price? Did I pay a price?

Yes, you became **COMMITTED** to the TRUTH.

I remember. Once I told myself that I was going to find the truth no matter what it took.

And what commitment did you make?

I said that no matter what the truth was, I would accept it and live my life by it. Even if it went completely against everything that I believed or held dear to myself, I would willingly turn all else loose for the truth.

This is the price. If you are willing to hear the truth, but you are not willing to accept it and live by it, then you are not yet fully committed to it.

I remember. And it was shortly after that when I developed the ability to hear You.

I am always willing to speak with My beloved children. Alas, many of them are unwilling or unable to hear Me clearly. I do strongly wish to speak to each of you.

Yeah, I guess You would be. You do love us so much.

Now, back to the TRUTH. There are many truths and only one TRUTH.

And You are that TRUTH?

Yes, and that truth, which is a particular aspect of Me, can be stated in a simplistic way in words.

You mean You can tell someone THE TRUTH? The Truth that underlies and determines all other truths?

Yes. Although, if it is stated without the proper foundation being laid for its comprehension, it will most likely be misunderstood.

Could I learn this TRUTH?

Yes—except not just yet.

Why not?

Because you still have a few essential misconceptions that would block your ability to fully understand it.

Such as?

Your false beliefs, your misconceptions, and your misperceptions.

Like not understanding what love really was?

Yes. What did you think love was?

Well, it's hard to explain. I guess I thought it was like a nice, warm feeling all over.

(Laughs.) So is a bath.

I thought it made you blind and do crazy things.

No! Love is not that way. I AM not that way. I don't make you blind or do crazy things. I assist you to see clearly and be mature if you allow Me to.

And I have misconceptions that are barriers to understanding TRUTH?

Yes. Tell Me what you think the TRUTH is?

God is love?

Sounds like a pat answer to Me. Come up with one of your own.

Well, the TRUTH has to deal with You. And I'll guess that it has to do with love, since You are love. I've got it! Man's reason for existence is to love and serve God! It's simple; it's the first commandment.

No. That's not the ultimate TRUTH, but it is a very close truth and I am pleased that you came up with that. Let's talk about man's reason for existing, for this, when clearly understood, will reveal the TRUTH.

You mean that man's reason for existence is the TRUTH?

Well, it's very similar.

So if You teach me why You created me—and all men—then I'll be able to understand THE TRUTH?

Yes. But we will have to lay some groundwork first to overcome some of your common misconceptions. After that you will be able to fully understand the TRUTH. It's not very complicated, yet it is very misunderstood.

Just like You and love, I'll bet. Okay, when?

Tomorrow. You need some sleep now.

I'll go to bed, but I don't think I'll be able to sleep. I'm too excited.

You got yourself excited. I'm here anytime you wish to talk with Me. I love you. I also know what's best for you. As you are, you shouldn't be in such a hurry to gulp down so much. Patience is also a virtue, along with holy zeal. Have some patience.

I'll try.

There is no such thing as "try" and you know it. Don't try—do it.

Yes, Father. I love You deeply; teach me to love You better.

I will, tomorrow. Go to bed now, and remember always: I love you!