



**It's a question a lot of people wonder about.**



**Do you remember this ?**

31 August 1997

**What did it say that she wanted to know ?**

# Something fundamental about us humans

The LORD God said,  
"It is not good for the man to be alone.  
I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 2: 18



# The first time the word 'love' (ahav) appears in the Bible

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love--Isaac--and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Genesis 22:2



A parent's love

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> time the word 'love' (ahav) appears in the Bible

Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death. Genesis 24:67



Married love

I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.

2 Samuel 1:26



David & Jonathan's deep friendship

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter,  
"Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

John 21:15



2 different words for 'love'

# The Greatest Commandment

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5



that kind  
of love



# This is love

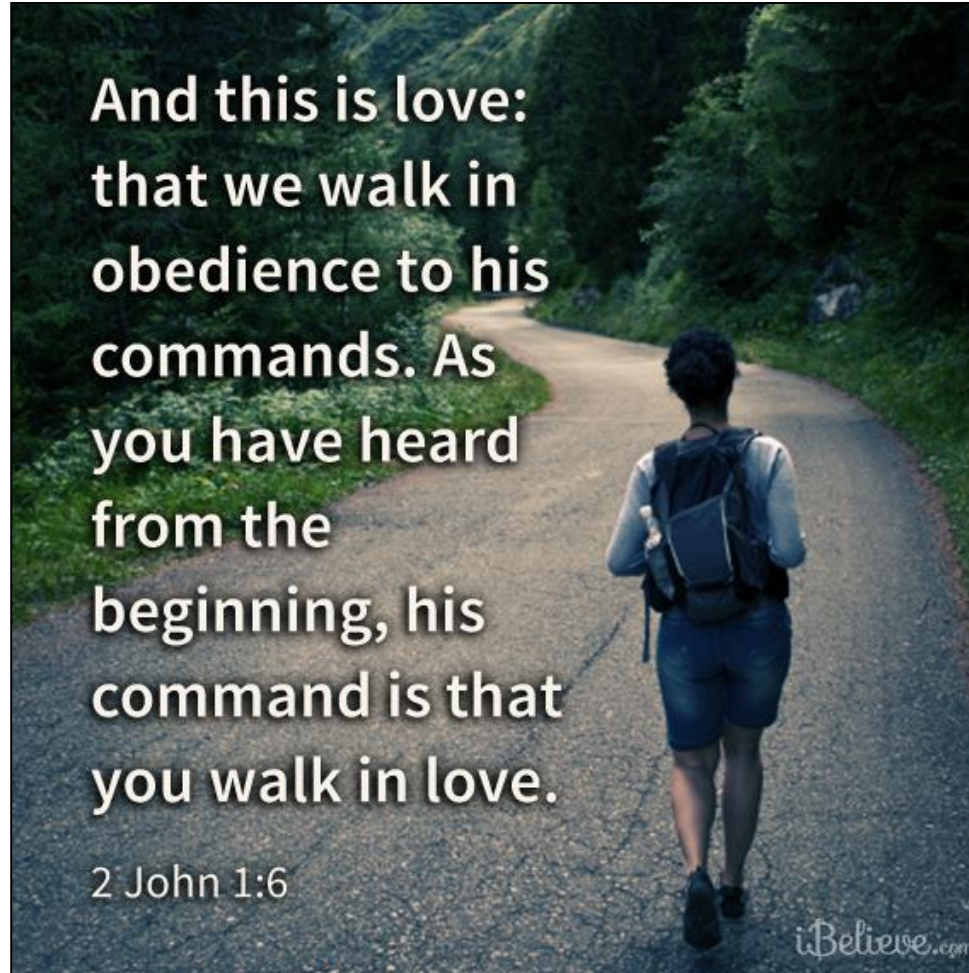
This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:10



**God's love starts the process**

# How we can respond to His love



And this is love:  
that we walk in  
obedience to his  
commands. As  
you have heard  
from the  
beginning, his  
command is that  
you walk in love.

2 John 1:6

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A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34

# No love = no good !

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 13



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13

**SIMPLY**

**THE  
BEST**

**Substitute “love” for “Jesus” and then “I”**

But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain.. faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13

A *Love*  
TO LAST

# It's NOT just feelings

It's a CHOICE too



But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

# It's NOT just feelings

Tough Love !



And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."

Hebrews 12:5 - 6

# But God's love is to be experienced too

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Romans 5:5

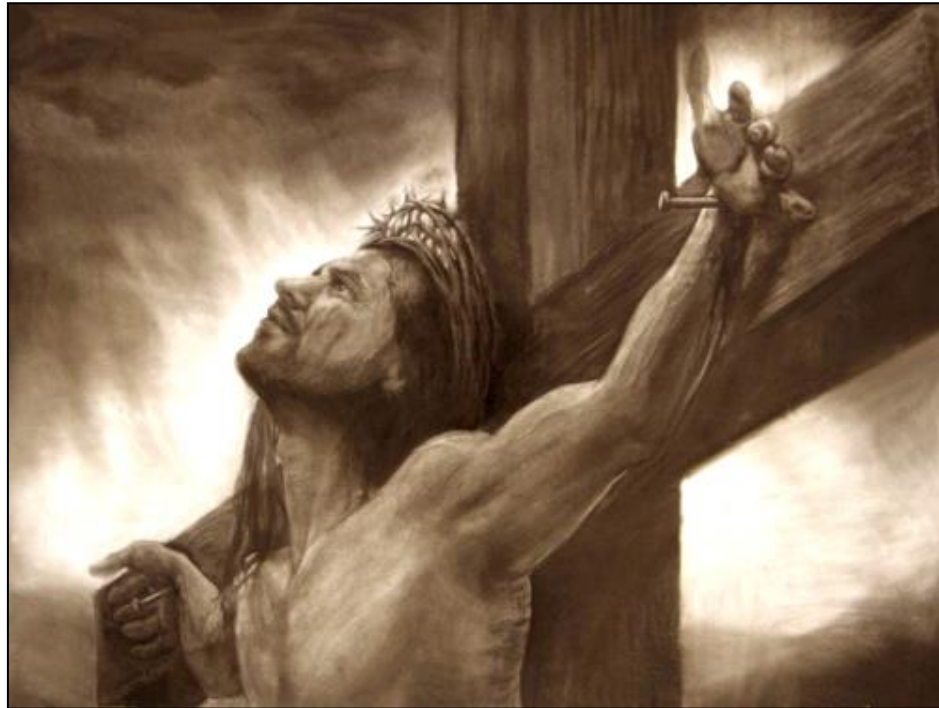




# It's personal !

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20



# Where is the Source of love ?

Whoever does not love does not know God,  
because God is love.

1 John 4:8



# God's love in the Old Testament

*Praise*  
THE LORD!

*Oh*  
give thanks  
TO THE LORD  
for He is good!

For His mercy

ENDURES *forever!*

PSALM  
106:1

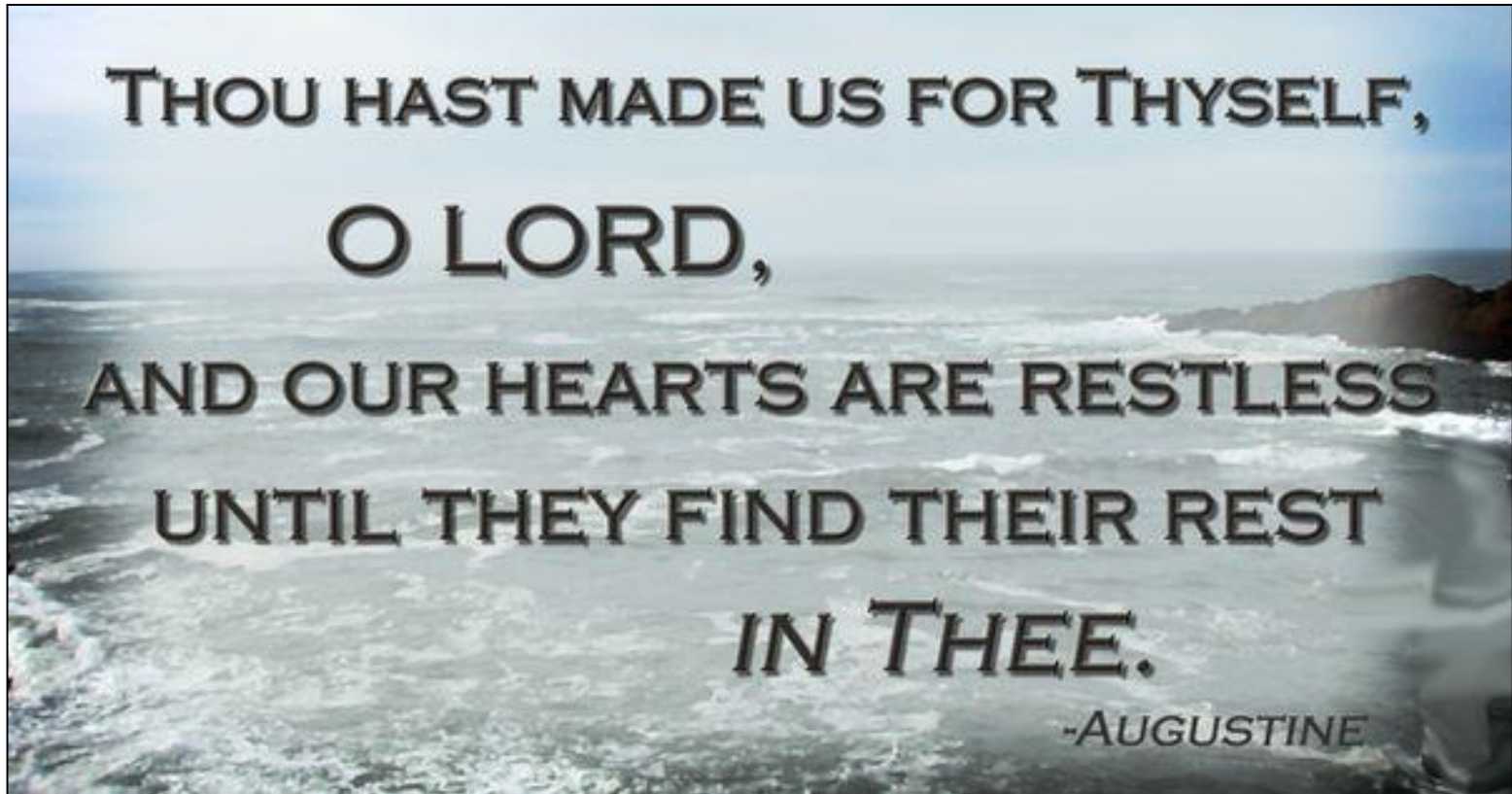
# Am I sure that I am loved ?



Secure at the centre



# Am I sure that I am loved ?



Then there is no need  
to fill it with stuff and wrong choices

**O Jesus, come and dwell in me,  
Walk in my steps each day,  
Live in my life, love in my love,  
And speak in all I say;  
Think in my thoughts, let all my acts  
Thy very actions be,  
So shall it be no longer I  
But Christ that lives in me.**