

Love a motivation, Siegfried Maré

A suggestion how the content of this manual can be used:

The content of this manual are based on bible verses (obtained mainly from the King James bible and using the Strong's concordance to obtain the full meaning of the words used in the verses) which are the basis for the points or views that are discussed. For your convenience you will find the Strong's and other references used at the end of this manual. Use this manual as a guide for your own study of the WORD of GOD. Enjoy and let your mind be renewed by your Saviour. Love the Word of God. It is your source of life.



Please note that this manual has no copy right.

Die AkkerChristelike Kerk is an Afrikaans Church in Johannesburg South Africa. This manual is written in English so that it can be used all over the world.

For more information about us please contact us at info@dieakker.co.za

Points that are discussed in this manual:

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Introduction

Loving our Lord is the biggest privilege we have. In the church culture we are all familiar with 1 Cor 13 that describes what love IS in detail. We also know that in the Word of God there are different Hebrew and Greek words translated as love that describes to us the different types of love, eg:

- to have affection for, sexually or otherwise. (*The Hebrew word: aw-habe [I think that's where we got the term "oh baby" from☺];*)
- To have affection for and seeking the best (benevolence) for the one you love (*The Greek word: agapē*)
- To love or be loved (*The Greek word: agapaō*) and
- To be a friend (*The Greek word: phileō*)

Why would we want to DO LOVE?

The following verses in the Bible make it quite clear why the DOING of **LOVE** is important:

1Jn 2:4 He who says, I have known Him, and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. **1Jn 2:5** But whoever keeps His Word, truly in this one the love of God is perfected. By this we know that we are in Him.

1Jn 2:15 Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him,

1Jn 2:16 because all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1Jn 2:17 And the world passes away, and the lust of it, but he who does the will of God abides forever.

1Jn 3:18 My children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth

1Jn 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, **for love is of God**, and everyone who loves LOVE a motivation

has been born of God, and knows God.

1Jn 4:8 The one who does not love has not known God. For **God is love.**

1Jn 4:9 In this the love of God was revealed in us, because God sent His only begotten Son into the world that we **might live through Him.**

1Jn 4:18 There is **no fear in love**, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has torment. He who fears has not been perfected in love.

1Jn 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. **And everyone who loves Him who begets also loves him who has been born of Him.**

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, whenever we love God and keep His commandments.

1Jn 5:3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments, and His commandments are not burdensome.**

There are certain aspects of our nature we must get familiar with to be ABLE TO LOVE. It is not good enough to know what love is. We in ourselves need to be able to DO LOVE.

This manual will look at the different aspects of LOVE:

- Love;
- Obedience;
- Virtue; and
- Equity

with the purpose to give us handles on how we can **DO LOVE** (keep God's commandments).

A. Love

1. Our make-up

We can determine from the definitions of the words used to describe love in the bible that love is motivated by:

- ✓ A **FEELING** or *affection* for, sexually or otherwise (*aw-habe*);
- ✓ **CARING** or a cause to seek the best (*benevolence*) for the one we love (*agapē*) as is written in:

John 21:16 (NKJV Strong's Bible) He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love (*agapē*) Me?"

- ❖ What Jesus asked Peter was: "Peter, are you willing to love according to:

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁴ Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things,

hopes all things, endures all things.

and a

✓ **NEED** to love or be loved (*agapaō*) and the need to be a friend (*phileō*) as is written in:

John 21:15 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹⁵ So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love (*agapaō*) Me more than these?"

❖ What Jesus asked Peter was: "Peter, Do you seek what is best for ME?"

John 21:17 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love (*phileō*) Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

❖ What Jesus asked Peter was: "Peter, Do you want to be My friend?"

How can I apply the above on myself, my soul, my spirit and my body?:

a) Soul

My soul is the place in me that NEED's to love and be loved and have friends and be a friend.

We also need to know our soul is the place we:

- a) Determine what we like and what gives us pleasure;
- b) Decide how we would have it; BUT it (me, you)
- c) NEEDs refreshment.

b) Spirit

The spirit in me is the home of everything I CARE about. My:

- a) Passions;
- b) Courage; and
- c) Perceptions (what we anticipate and enjoy) by determining what I will: accept, smell and touch so that I can understand;

Then the last but not the least our:

c) Body

My body is the place of my affections affected by what I FEEL through my senses (Heb 5:14).

We also need to know that our body

- a) Can enslave us;
- b) Is what Satan uses to attack us (Gen 3:15);

BUT

- c) Through JESUS our Saviour can be whole (free, healed and restored).

2. Love body, soul and spirit

To be able to love I must allow myself to FEEL, CARE and to have NEEDS.

1) Feel

If we must be able to feel we need to know that we are allowed to feel from God's word.

- ✓ We all want to **FEEL** good, happy, honest to ourselves, relieved, prosperous, satisfied, strengthened and whole.

If the above describes how you want to feel then it is important to note the following:

Psalms 33:4 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁴ For the word of the Lord is right,
And all His work is done in truth.

- ❖ Everything in God's word is right and the truth.

Psalms 38:1 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹ O Lord, do not rebuke me in **Your wrath**,
Nor chasten me in Your **hot displeasure!** ...³ There is no soundness in my flesh
Because of Your **anger**,,,,

Ps 38 describes how God's feelings:

- Wrath
 - Hot displeasure; and
 - Anger.
- ❖ How can we FEEL blessed (good, happy, honest to ourselves, relieved, prosperous, strengthened and whole) if we also have feelings described in Ps 38?

2) Care

Ps 41 gives us a very important key to the road of becoming WHOLE in Jesus, our need to CARE:

Psalms 41:1-3 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹ **Blessed is he who considers (care for) the poor;**

The Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

² The Lord will preserve him and keep him alive,
And he will be blessed on the earth;

You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies.

³ The Lord will strengthen him on his bed of illness;
You will sustain him on his sickbed.

To be able to FEEL blessed, God asks us just to consider (care for) the poor **giving us a cause or reason to love.**

What God asks of us is that we will **CARE** for people we deem to have less than us and be willing to instruct, teach and guide them also to become whole (Is 61).

- ❖ We must ask ourselves: Do we NEED this blessing of God?

3) Need

To determine what we NEED we must:

- be honest with ourselves. We must
 - take recognition of HOW we FEEL, we must:
- ❖ decide if we will conform to how God wants to fulfill our need by being willing (believe) to take action (believe, have faith in) and to be **obedient** to God's WORD.

3. Love and the SPIRIT of God

2 Tim 1: 7 "God gave us a Spirit of power, love and a sound mind".

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If God asks us something to do, He also enables us to do what He asked of us like He did with David in:

1 Samuel 16:13 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the **Spirit of the Lord came upon David** from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

- The Spirit of God came on David teaching him how to walk in God's blessings.

David went up to take provisions to his brothers at the battle with the Philistines and their champion, Goliath in:

1 Samuel 17:28 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ²⁸ Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."

David was accused by his brother that he is proud and naughty. Look at David's LOVE response:

- He did not let his **feeling**s (body) be affected by what his brother said about him:

1 Samuel 17:29 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ²⁹ And David said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause **(CARE)** (spirit)?"

We all know what happened then that David could go up in the NAME of THE LORD and conquered Goliath. So doing David's **NEED** (soul) to be a friend and love our Lord has been fulfilled.

From the above account we can determine if we want to LOVE as David loved, we need to be taught by Holy Spirit like David was.

- ❖ How can we then also be taught by Holy Spirit to walk in God's love?

B. Obedience

To obey or not to obey is our battle (Mat 13 in the "Parable of the Sower".)

- ❖ **What can we put in place to remind ourselves to love God and to obey the teachings of Holy Spirit?**

The following verses will give us some handles on how we can discipline ourselves to be and stay obedient.

- Isaiah 46:8-9 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁸ **Remember** this, and show yourselves men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors. ⁹ **Remember** the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,
- Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹ "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently **Obey** the voice of the Lord your God, to **Observe** carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations

of the earth. ² And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God

- John 14:21 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps (*Have your mind focused on, think about*) them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

From the above scriptures we can develop (water) the **ROOT** of obedience in our lives by doing the following:

- **R**emember that we have a cause (caring for the poor, seek and pursue peace, etc).
- **O**bey God's voice. Ask yourself what did He tell you to do?
- **O**bserve His commandment. Be careful to keep the things you know of God and what He loves close to your heart.
- **T**hink. Recognize the things you think about. Be honest, how much does God feature in your thoughts? Do you keep His commandments?.....

Now having handles let us become Virtues and step out and love boldly.

C. Virtue

2 Pe 1:5 tells us to give all diligence to add to our faith virtue.

To be virtues is to be the man and do what you know God requires of those that love's Him.

The following will give us some handles to help us to be virtues:

1. Things that hinders us being virtues

Isaiah 6:10-11 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹⁰ “Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed.”

¹¹ Then I said, “Lord, how long?”

In Is 6 we see that peoples:

- Hearts are dull.
In other words, the hearts are fat, without feelings, care or reason.
- Their ears heavy.
Because of an overload of knowledge (news, media, movies, work, etc.) perceptions are clouded.
- And shut their eyes;
The eyes are shut because everyone is only busy seeking their own pleasure.

Knowing what keep us from being virtues, let us now go and look how we be virtues:

2. Being virtues

How can we get ourselves be free from the above?

Psalms 34:11-15 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ¹¹ Come, you children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

¹² Who is the man who desires life,
And loves many days, that he may see good?

¹³ Keep your **tongue** from evil,
And your **lips** from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Depart from evil and do good;

Seek peace and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their cry.

From Ps 34 we can determine that we will be able to embrace God's blessings by:

a) Keeping our tongues

To be able to keep your tongue it is necessary to know the following about your tongue:

It is used for:

- Eating (meat etc.);
- Drinking (water etc.); and
- Speaking.

Therefore we must not only guard what we say, but also what we drink. Do we prefer the Water of the Word of God or the water of the media found on cell phones, etc.?

Jn 4:34 Jesus says that His meat is do the will of the Father. What are the priorities (meat) in our lives? Ps 34:12 says: we must keep away from deceit....

b) Guard our lips

Our lips are the boundaries of what we speak. Keeping our lips literally means that we must keep watch to speak only those things that are not deceit and only that we have faith in.

c) Seek peace and pursue it

To be able to do what God tells us it is so important to embrace the HELP God has given to us to be obedient as is stated in the following verses:

Romans 8:6-7 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁶ For to be carnally minded is death, but **to be spiritually minded is life and peace.** ⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

We can embrace God's HELP (Holy Spirit) by **believing** we will receive HELP (just like David with Goliath) if we:

- **R**emind ourselves, to **O**bey what God told us (seek peace and pursue it) by, carefully **O**bserving His commandments guarding our **T**houghts (our Thinking and what we let into our mind).

This act of obedience will be accounted to us for righteousness as is written in:

Romans 4:3 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham **believed** God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Because we believe we can now also have life as is written in:

- ❖ Romans 8:9-10 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life **because of righteousness.**

and

Loving God by loving those that are loved by Him we will be rewarded as described by the following verses:

- ❖ Matthew 10:40-42 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁴⁰ "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. ⁴¹ He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And **he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.** ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

Let us now embrace the life (love) God wants to give to us being in EQUITY with God in Jesus Christ our Righteousness (Rom 10:4).

D. Equity

Why equity? (It is not only because it is the E in LOVE in this manual☺)

The word equity literally means to be in agreement with things that are RIGHT.

- ❖ We therefore must make a choice to agree with what God wants from us, gives to us or requires from us to be in EQUITY with Him:

Because we believe Psalms 33:4 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁴ For the word of the Lord is right, And all His work is done in truth.

- ✓ God wants to give us love. To be in equity with Him we must except His love;
- ✓ God wants love from us. To be in equity with Him we have to obey Him by loving Him showing it through loving those He loves (as seen from the verses quoted in the introduction in this manual); and
- ✓ God wants to give us life and peace but requires **righteousness**. To be in equity with Him we must believe God as is written in Rom 4:9

To be in equity with God is to observe all His commandments because we believe in Jesus our Righteousness (Rom10:4) through the help of Holy Spirit.

If you can tick the above, the following love covenant of life and peace is with you also:

- ❖ Malachi 2:5-6 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁵ **"My covenant was with him, one of life and peace,**

And I gave them to him that he might fear Me;

So he **feared** Me

And was reverent before My name.

⁶ The law of truth was in his mouth,

And injustice was not found on his lips.

He walked with Me in peace and **EQUITY**,

And turned many away from iniquity.

From the above verses we can see that God's love covenant of life and peace is with those that:

- a) Fear God (refer to Section C in this manual)
- b) Adapted their lives according to God's Righteousness (believe) and justice (action of love) (refer to Section C in this manual) and confirmed in:
 - ❖ Isaiah 28:16-17 (NKJV Strong's Bible) Therefore thus says the Lord God:
 - "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation,
 - A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation;
 - Whoever believes will not act hastily.
 - ¹⁷ **Also I will make justice the measuring line,**
 - And righteousness the plummet;**
 - The hail will sweep away the refuge of lies,
 - And the waters will overflow the hiding place.

From the above we can determine that to be in equity (love with God) is to be in agreement with the TRUTH (Word) of God, not only in word but bearing fruit that brings justice.

Loving God by doing it HIS way, will fulfill all our **NEEDS** as is written in:

- ❖ Our need of being loved and to love:
 - Hebrews 1:5 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁵ For to which of the angels did He ever say:
 - "You are My Son,
 - Today I have begotten You"? And again:
 - "I will be to Him a Father,
 - And He shall be to Me a Son"?

and

- ❖ Our need to be a friend and have a Friend
 - Hebrews 1:9 (NKJV Strong's Bible) ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;
 - Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
 - With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.".... ¹³ But to which of the angels has He ever said:
 - "Sit at My right hand,
 - Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?

Summary

1Jn 2:4 He who says, I have known Him, and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. **1Jn 2:5** But whoever keeps His Word, truly in this one the love of God is perfected. By this we know that we are in Him.

Let us therefore LOVE our Lord, King and God in and through the NAME of JESUS:

- ✓ Remember to be honest with ourselves being:
 - true to what we **FEEL**
 - Keeping our tongue and guarding our lips from deceit
- ✓ Obeying God's Word by taking **CARE** to take up the cause to seek and pursue peace
- ✓ Observing God's commandments being in equity with His Word
- ✓ Be Spiritually minded, taking every **T**hough captive that exalt itself over the glorious name of Jesus. Ask yourself: What do you **NEED**?

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