

NORTH HILLS NOTES

LOVE MATTERS MOST

40 Days of Love

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"...There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I don't have space to store my goods?' Then he said, 'Here's what I'll do: I'll tear down my barns and build me larger ones! Then I'll say to myself, "I have so many good things stored up for me - now rest, eat, drink, and be merry!" But God said to him, "You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and then to whom will all your things belong?" Thus will it be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God...real life is not measured by how much you own.'" Luke 12:16-21, 15 (NAB)

"If you are a follower of Christ Jesus ... All that matters is your faith that makes you love others." Galatians 5:6 (CEV)

IF I DON'T LIVE A LIFE OF LOVE...

1. ...NOTHING I SAY WILL MATTER.

"If I could speak in any language in heaven or on earth but didn't love others, I would only be making meaningless noise like a loud gong or a clanging cymbal." 1 Corinthians 13:1 (NLT)

2. ...NOTHING I KNOW WILL MATTER.

"I may have the gift of prophecy. I may understand all the secret things of God and have all knowledge. But if I do not have love, then I am nothing" 1 Corinthians 13:2a (NCV)

3. ...NOTHING I BELIEVE WILL MATTER.

"Even if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, I would still be worth nothing at all without love." 1 Corinthians 13:2b (LB)

"If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen" 1John 4:20 (TEV)

4. ...NOTHING I GIVE WILL MATTER.

"If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, but didn't love others, I would be of no value whatsoever." 1 Corinthians 13:3a (NLT)

5. ...NOTHING I ACCOMPLISH WILL MATTER.

"So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love." 1 Corinthians 13:3b (Mes)

"Love is more important than anything else. It is what ties everything completely together." Colossians. 3:14 (CEV)

WHAT IS LOVE?

• LOVE IS A COMMAND.

"Love means doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another" 2 John 1:6 (NLT)

• LOVE IS A CHOICE.

"Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does!" 1 Corinthians 14:1a (Mes)

• LOVE IS A CONDUCT.

"We must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words." 1 John 3:18 (GW)

• LOVE IS A COMMITMENT.

"God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us." 1 John 4:16 (CEV)

HOW TO BUILD A LIFE OF LOVE

1. LEARN how mature love acts and responds.

2. START your day with a daily reminder to love.

3. MEMORIZE what God says about love.

4. PRACTICE acting in unselfish, loving ways.

5. GET SUPPORT from other loving people.

"Let love be your highest goal." 1 Corinthians 14: 1 (NLT)

"Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ, who love you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins." Ephesians 5:2 (NLT)

"In this life we have three lasting qualities, faith, hope and love, and the greatest of them is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13 (Phillips)

"Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire love. Make it your aim, your great quest..." 1 Corinthians 14:1 (Amp)