

February 14, 2014  
A Valentines to Remember

Valentine's Day is a holiday (not an official one, but one in our culture nonetheless). It is a day that is set aside to celebrate love – or at least what our world understands as love.

There is only one problem – the world's perception of love is not what real love is all about. The common perception is that love is the warm feeling that springs from within; that it is the thrill, excitement and giddiness of romance; that it is the enthusiasm of possibilities that exist in new relationships.

And on this Valentine's Day, I want to remind you that love is more than this. It is more than the emotion and feeling, the warm embrace of a lover, a kind word from a friend.

Love is the ultimate sacrifice. Remember the words of Jesus:

***“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”*** (John 15:13, ESV)

Real love is sacrificial. It is a decision to sacrifice of one's self for the good of another. Real love is willingly subservient – surrendering to the best interest of another. Real love is not about acquiring giddy emotions for the heart but demonstrating goodness, kindness and mercy to another.

Real love is about giving our lives for another.

So on this Valentine's Day, remember love is not about you **feeling** good but about your **doing** good for another person. Demonstrate love to someone today: perhaps your spouse, your family, your co-workers, your friends.

Love through sacrifice and service. That's what Valentines should be all about!

*Lover of my Soul: Thank you for loving me supremely in Jesus. I offer my life as a tribute of love and service to you and to others. Amen.*