

# Grace-Based Marriage: Love

May 17, 2009 Colossians 3:12-14

## Introduction

"How do you revive a marriage of many years, when the love is gone? I've prayed to the Lord many times over this."

Love is different from romance.

Where does love come from?

## What does it mean to love?

Vv.12-13 are all aspects of love (v.14)

Compassionate hearts and kindness (v.12).

Humility and meekness (v.12)

Patience, bearing with one another, forgiving each other (vv.12-13).

## Where does this love come from?

From understanding, trusting, feeling that I am:

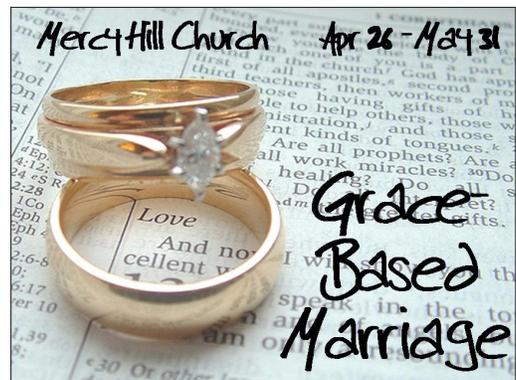
I am chosen by God (humbles me) (v.12)

I am made holy by God (encourages me) (v.12)

I am beloved by God (fills me) (v.12)

## So how can I become more loving?

By sinking my roots deep into the truth that I am chosen by God, made holy by God, and loved by God because of Jesus Christ.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

(This might be a good week to have men and women meet on their own. It's crucial that this not be a time when we talk about the faults of our spouse. Go out of your way to speak honorably of them. Focus on your own issues and needs.)

Read Colossians 3:12-14.

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What are some ways this passage has been impacting you?

Which of the three aspects of love are hardest for you —

Compassion and kindness — desiring their good

Humility and meekness — putting them first

Patience and forbearing with them — not being bothered by their annoyances

Which of the following do you feel most deeply? Least deeply? Why?

Chosen by God

Made holy by God

Loved by God

What's one step you could take to feel the above more deeply?

What's one way you could love your spouse more?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

