GREAT LOVE VI

 Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? **37**  Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. **38** This is the first and great commandment. **39** And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. **40** On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matt 22:36-40 (KJV)

I had a professor in college that did not share many of my beliefs but one particular evening when we started class he pulled out his New Testament and started reading from John chapter eight verses one through eleven. It was the story of the adulterous woman who had been caught in the act and brought to Jesus. When my instructor completed the reading of his text, he closed his Bible and looked at our class. Some of us were adults but there were several young students both boys and girls, men and women in the class. The total of students in our class was about seventy. As he looked at us he said that he was sure that among the seventy students in our class there was someone who had been beaten down, guilt laden and ashamed for past or present sins in our lives but he assured us that the same Jesus who had forgiven that adulterous woman, loved us and was standing ready to forgive us and cleanse us of our sin. Needless to say, though I had differences with my teacher on a doctrinal basis, I had no doubt that he had a great love for us. In fact, what I remember most about that instructor was the great love he showed us.

It thrills my soul to see that same love being displayed by people in our own church. I visited one of the local high schools on Thursday and attended their FCA meeting. One of the sponsors was a member of our church. As he shared his devotion with one hundred students he shared the plan of salvation. I can see no other reason for doing what he did but that he had a tremendous love for those students. Two of the FCA members there are members of our church. I feel sure that out of their great love for their classmates, they have worked hard to get them to come to their meetings. It would take much more than a short devotion to tell of the pride and admiration that I have for all of you who are sharing your faith in the various ways that you have opportunity. God bless you!!!

Surely we would not argue that Jesus loves us with the greatest love that could ever be demonstrated but as our text shows us we should love our neighbors also. The greatest love we could ever show is to tell them about the Savior who will save them from their sin. Unbelievers do not see Christ but they see you. As you let the love of Christ be lived out in you, you will reach others for Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram