TODAY'S SCRIPTURE FOCUS: I JOHN 4:7-21

"WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT"

"If you want your church to become purpose-driven, you will have to lead it through four critical phases." (pg. 93-94)

4 CRITICAL PHASES:

(pg. 94)

- 1. Define Your Purpose;
- 2. Communicate Purposes;
- 3. Organize Around Purposes
 - 4. Apply Your Purposes;

"It isn't our job to create the purposes of the church but to discover them." "Once you have defined the purposes of your church, you must continually clarify and communicate them..." (pg. 112)

"WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT"

"LOVE" = 494x

01. Eros

02. Phileo

03. Storge

04. Agape

"For GOD so <u>loved</u> the world that HE gave HIS only begotten Son, that whoever believes in HIM should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

"You shall <u>love</u> the LORD your GOD with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."

Deuteronomy 6:5

"For whom the LORD loves, HE corrects."

Proverbs 3:12

"Hatred stirs up strife, but <u>love</u> covers a multitude of sins." **Proverbs 10:12** "Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth — For your *love* is better than wine." Song of Solomon 1:2 "Husbands,
love your wives,
just as Christ also loved
the church and gave
HIMSELF for her,..."
Ephesians 5:25

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who *love* GOD, to those who are the called according to HIS purpose."

**Romans 8:28*

"Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law." Romans 13:10

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not *love*, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal."

I Corinthians 13:1

"...and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not <u>love</u>, I am nothing." I Corinthians 13:2 "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor... but have not *love*, it profits me nothing." I Corinthians 13:3 "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;"

"Love never fails."

I Corinthians 13:4 & 13:8

"But I say to you, *love* your enemies,
bless those who curse
you..." *Matthew 5:44*

"For GOD so *loved* the world that HE gave HIS only begotten Son, that whoever believes in HIM should not perish, but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*

"A new commandment I give to you, that you *love* one another; as I have *loved* you, that you also *love* another."

John 13:34

"By this all will know that you are MY disciples if you have <u>love</u> for one another." John 13:35 "If you

<u>love</u> ME,
keep MY
commandments."

"He who has MY commandments and keeps them, it is he who *loves* ME."

John 14:21a

"And he who <u>loves</u> ME will be <u>loved</u> by MY FATHER, and I will love him and manifest MYSELF to him."

John 14:21b

"As the FATHER

<u>loved</u> ME,
I also have <u>loved</u>
you, abide in
MY <u>love</u>."
John 15:9

"If you keep MY commandments, you will abide in MY love, just as I have kept MY FATHER's commandments and abide in HIS <u>love</u>."

John 15:10

"This is
MY commandment,
that you *love* one
another as I have *loved* you."
John 15:12

"Greater <u>love</u>
has no one
than this, than to
lay down one's life for
his friends."
John 15:13

"These things
I command you,
that you
<u>love</u>
one another."
John 15:17

"for the FATHER Himself <u>loves</u> you, because you have <u>loved</u> ME, and have believed that I came forth from GOD."

John 15:27

"...Simon, bar Jonah, do you *love* ME more than these?" "...Feed MY lambs." "...Tend MY sheep." "Feed MY sheep." John 21:15-17

"But whoever keeps
HIS word, truly the

<u>love</u> of GOD is
perfected in him. By
this we know that we
are in HIM."

1 John 2:5

"He who *loves*his brother
abides in the light,
and there is no cause
for stumbling in him." *I John 2:10*

"Do not <u>love</u> the world or the things in the world. If anyone <u>loves</u> the world, the <u>love</u> of the FATHER is not in him." **I John 2:15** "Behold what manner of *love* the FATHER has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of GOD!"

I John 3:1a

"By this we know <u>love</u>, because HE laid down HIS life for us. And we ought to also lay down our lives for the brethren.

I John 3:16a

"My little children, let us not <u>love</u> in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

SERMONIC POINTS:

#1: DOWNWARD

#2: UPWARD

#3: INWARD

#4: OUTWARD

SERMONIC POINT #1:

DOWNWARD

(from GOD)

"Beloved, let us <u>love</u> one another, for <u>love</u> is of GOD; and everyone who <u>loves</u> is born of GOD and knows GOD." **I John 4:7**

"He who
does not *love*does not know GOD,
for GOD is *love*." *I John 4:8*

"In this the <u>love</u> of GOD was manifested toward us, that GOD has sent HIS only begotten SON ...that we might live..."

I John 4:9

"In this is <u>love</u>, not that we <u>loved</u> GOD, but that HE <u>loved</u> us and sent HIS SON to be the propitiation for our sins." I John 4:10

SERMONIC POINT #2: UPWARD

(to GOD)

"And we have known and believed the <u>love</u> that GOD has for us.
GOD is <u>love</u>, and he who abides in <u>love</u> abides in GOD, and GOD in him."

I John 4:16

"Whoever believes that JESUS is the Christ is born of GOD, and everyone who *loves* HIM who begot also *loves* him who is begotten of HIM." "By this
we know that we *love*the children of GOD,
when we *love* GOD
and keep HIS
commandments."

I John 5:2

"For this is the <u>love</u> of GOD, that we keep HIS commandments. And HIS commandments are not burdensome."

I John 5:3

SERMONIC POINT #3:
INWARD

(from GOD to Self)

"We <u>love</u> HIM because HE first <u>loved</u> us." I John 4:19 SERMONIC POINT #4:

OUTWARD

(from Self to Neighbor)

"Beloved,
if GOD so *loved* us,
we also ought
to *love* one another."

I John 4:11

"...If we <u>love</u> one another, GOD abides in us, and HIS <u>love</u> has been perfected in us." I John 4:12

"If someone says,
"I *love* GOD," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not *love* his brother whom he has seen, how can he *love* GOD whom he has not seen." *4:20*

"By this we know <u>love</u>, because HE laid down HIS life for us. And we ought to also lay down our lives for the brethren. **I John 3:16a**