

Happy Valentine's Day!



Growth Ministries Inc.

As Iron Sharpens Iron, So One Person Sharpens Another. Psalms 27:17



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I LOVE YOU!

What does that mean? What are people really saying when they utter that phrase? Does it matter who says it?

It wasn't until I was saved that word started having meaning to me. We didn't say "I love you" a lot in my house growing up. My mom was from the south. Her grandparents transitioned out of slavery. You didn't express a lot of emotion back then. You had to be tough. I know she loved us. She did everything a good mother should. She was caring, nurturing, and she provided for us as a single parent very well. To make matters worse I grew up in a neighborhood where if people were nice to you, that probably meant they wanted something.

When you get to know Christ, you learn there are all kinds of love. You learn the true meaning of it. You learn how to give and how to receive. You learn that love is the greatest thing in the world. Here are the most talked about kinds of love in the bible.

Eros - Pronounced AIR-os, This is what we would call romantic love.

- This includes love found in Song of Solomon.
- The bible mentions this type of love in unhealthy places where sex and sexual immorality become an idol for certain communities.

Storge - Pronounced stor-JAY, Storge refers to love between family members.

Philia – Pronounced 'filēa. Brotherly love.

- This is where the city of Philadelphia (city of "Brotherly Love") gets its name.
- This form of love is Greek for the deep, emotional bonds that connect two people.
- This is exemplified in friendships like Jonathan and King David.

Agape – pronounced a-GA-pai. The highest and most noble form of love.

- God reserved this for the way he loves us.
- It is what Jesus demonstrated on the cross.

I love you like Christ loves me!

Lonnie Johnson

Executive Director, GMI

Greater love has no one than this, THAT SOMEONE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.

JOHN 15:13

How to Study the Bible

For almost 50 years, I have been reading and studying the Bible, which has drastically changed my life. It has been the key to a radical transformation in my perspectives, attitudes, and viewpoints, and God has restored my spirit, soul, and body through the power of His Word.

Even now, at my age, *every day*, I'm amazed by all of the wonderful benefits and insights into how we are to live our lives we have access to in God's Word.

As we grow in our knowledge of Jesus Christ, we must learn to study the Bible for ourselves and not depend only on the instruction of other preachers and teachers.

When you become a Christian, you enter an exciting, thrilling, lifelong relationship with the Bible. When we start to study the Bible, we begin an exciting journey to know and understand our Lord God more intimately and passionately. The best way we can do this is to study with awareness and intentionality the book He has written, the Bible, which communicates who He is, His character and His nature, and His plan of redemption for mankind.

The Bible is no ordinary book. The words within its pages are like medicine to your soul and body. The Word of God has the power to change your life because there is power and life in the Word!

If we don't study God's Word consistently and apply its truth to our lives, we will lack the power to mature in Jesus Christ and glorify God in this world.

Sometimes when you open your Bible and flip through a few of its pages, you sigh. This extraordinary book can seem overwhelming. I understand studying the Bible can feel intimidating. But you need to figure out where to start.

Where do I start? What do I Study?

Well... there's really no wrong place to start. But no matter where you begin, start in prayer and invite God to open your mind and heart and teach you through his Word.

First, purposely set aside time. My time with God is in the mornings, but if that doesn't work for you, find a time that does. Beneficial, practical Bible study does not happen by accident. To study Scripture, you'll need to have intentional time for it.

Second. Prepare your heart. Talk to God about things you need to confess and enter your study time peacefully and without anything that may hinder you from receiving God's revelation.

Third. Establish Bible study importance. Make it a top priority to study God's Word because there is the power to change your life and help you become the person God wants you to be. That's the most extraordinary life you can possibly ever have.

Fourth. Have patience. Learning and study are processes. Some portions of the Bible are more challenging to read and more difficult to understand than others. But the great thing is the Holy Spirit helps us understand even those problematic passages.

How to Study the Bible cont.

Which Bible translation should I use?

You must remember that you aren't limited to just one translation. Ultimately, the decision is up to you. I recommend having a word-for-word version for deep study: the New King James Version (NKJV) or The English Standard Version (ESV). When reading and studying the Bible, you want your interpretation to be as accurate as possible so that you don't miss anything.

Why should I even care about going deeper into Bible study? Isn't surface knowledge enough?

No, it categorically is not enough! The Bible says those who hunger and thirst after righteousness will be filled. God's Word will shed light on your life and bring hope to your dark places. But you cannot receive that light and hope if you do not seek it.

A Four-Part Process to Studying the Bible

Observation, Interpretation, Connection, Application

Observation

Observation is where you ask, "What did I see?" What are the main ideas and the main facts and points? And what did those things mean? Your goal in observing is to recognize who and what the author was trying to communicate.

You want to concentrate on things like:

Keywords: Are there repeated words or phrases that may be especially important that can help you understand what's happening?

The genre: The Bible's books were written in different genres. The Bible has books of poetry, like Psalms, or books of wisdom, like Proverbs. How you read the genre will make a big difference in what you observe.

The background: You must pay close attention to where things are happening and to who it is happening. Sometimes what's not said will be just as important as what is said.

Interpretation

Interpretation is where you ask, "What does it mean?" Interpretation can be difficult. Ask as many questions as possible. They are all the right questions. Sometimes, what may appear trivial can uncover critical insights. Secondary resources such as Bible dictionaries, atlases, concordances, and handbooks can be helpful. Sources like these can give you essential information to help answer your questions. If you use a commentary during your study, try to do it near the end. Do all you can to find the treasures of the passage on your own, and then come back through with a commentary.

How to Study the Bible cont.

Connection

Once you have studied the passage, it's time to make some connections. If that passage of the Bible were the only one you could ever read, what would you learn from it about God's character, nature, and actions? God's redemptive plan? What does this passage teach you that is still applicable today as it was when it was written? The unerring and infallible Word of God that was true for the original audience is equally valid for you. Now you're ready to start thinking about how to apply what you've read and learned.

Application

What makes Bible study different is the ultimate goal of Bible study is not information; it's transformation. The purpose of observation, interpretation, and connecting is to help apply what the Word teaches us to our life. Be careful not to accumulate knowledge for knowledge's sake, the knowledge that makes you look smart. Your desire to know God's Word better is so it can transform you into the image of His dear son.

Remember, some passages will have a vague application. You must ask yourself what the biblical truths you have discovered mean to your life, priorities, and relationships. This application step can be uncomfortable and is where truth and life might collide, but don't stop; it is essential and worth it.

Tips for Growth

Keeping a journal helps. You can use it to record your prayers and note when and how God answered them, for theological and doctrinal questions, insights, questions you may have, and so much more.

Write a prayer to God based on what you just read and learned, and ask Him to give you opportunities to live out this truth.

Try to avoid jumping around too much in your study times. Instead of reading short, single verses from different books, concentrate on reading chapters and books.

God is the author of the Bible, and His desire is for us to understand it. Studying the Bible can and will be a lifelong adventure. It contains both simple and practical insights and profound and moving insights that will help Christians grow in their faith. Bible study should never become just an academic task, even though that has its place. You must remember that studying the Bible is to have an intimate, passionate, personal relationship with God so that He may be praised, honored, and glorified.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

By Alywin Mitchell, GMI Writer



Letter of Love

“Love” is such a fickle word.

We might use it to express the pleasure we feel when eating popcorn or viewing a sunset.

Or we might throw it back off the cuff to our partner, or parent, “Love you too!” as we hang up the phone.

Love might be relegated to the back of the line when we feel we must be strong. We brace ourselves to fight, to endure, to come out on top. And LOVE is the last thing we want to feel before we prepare for self-preservation.

Fear that we may not survive pushes love down. Fear fills the space. We cannot afford to give “love” a foot hold. It might make us hesitate, or feel weak, or even make us roll over and allow others to take advantage of us. If we love too much (or even at all) might that make us act like a victim? Wouldn't that make us a target?

The idea of “love” can certainly be confusing. But we've got it all wrong when we think love is weak. The truth is, true love is “stronger than death” (Song of Solomon 8:6).

True love is stronger than fear...

1 John 4:18 “perfect love casts out fear.”

If a parent loves a child perfectly, the child need never fear his or her parent's rejection or displeasure.

If a spouse loves his or her spouse perfectly, their partner need never fear rejection or abandonment.

But no parent or spouse has ever loved perfectly. And so, we have become confused about “love”. Not experiencing perfect love, we believe love is weak, soft, unreliable, fickle.

However, God's love IS perfect. When we allow His love to be poured into our hearts, it spreads into our entire being. It gives us true hope, hope that will not disappoint (Romans 5:5). God's perfect love abolishes fear and shame. It brings with it the assurance we are adopted by Him. We belong in HIS family.

And every single morning, His love is fresh. His mercy is renewed (Lamentations 3:22-23). We are carried, comforted, defended, and held in His watch-care.

Perfect love, the love of God, is not weak.

It is stronger than fear, stronger than hopelessness, stronger than our failure.

His love is free. We cannot earn it, nor can we lose it by our struggles.

But we CAN harden our hearts in self-protective walls, resisting and refusing to receive His love.

And the truth is, we can never protect our own hearts more thoroughly than the love of God will protect, comfort and strengthen our hearts.... If we will allow Him to.

Kendana Heston



The Lover of My Soul

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching and for some this is a day of overwhelmingly feeling loved, seen, or known. For others this is a day of reminding them of what they desperately want but do not have, leaving them with abandoning questions of "What is wrong with me?" The culture of this world screams in every aspect that a reflection of love is having that one special someone. Those around you might think it odd with those who are not coupled with someone or something. People may feel like love is demonstrated in arduous work, being prestigious in a company at all costs, providing for family or a soul mate, a spouse, kids, and a white picket fence. The term "Love" is used so lightly used to describe our emotions toward people, food, sports, events, etc. Sometimes I wonder, because of the flagrant use of the word, the meaning of love is muddied or has become desensitized in the hearts of people. People nowadays fall in and out of love and move on to the next person in a matter of days. I do believe every human being on the face of the planet is looking for love at a great cost. So willingly giving up costly parts of themselves for the hope of believing they are known, unconditionally accepted, and loved at the core of their very essence. Is this kind of love relationship possible? If so, where can it be found? Is it found in another human relationship – possibly. Is it found in having the false sense of security of wealth and prestige – probably not. I have not always felt loved growing up in a very hostile environment and then marrying someone who I thought was my forever person only to discover they were just as hostile, just not in an outwardly aggressive manner. But the destruction to my heart was the same.

What I have learned on my life's journey is the greatest and most impactful kind of love is a "father's love." Let me explain, I spent years (living more years of life than I have left) striving to gain the approval and love of my natural father. He, himself was a broken individual. Because of that lack of love in my life I went on a costly adventure looking for this "love" in a feeble attempt to fill the aching vacuum of my heart. I did grow up in a Christian home and what I mean by that is we went to church on Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night and possibly a few other nights in between but at home there was not any reflection of God anywhere. The ministers at that time preached with hell, fire and brimstone intensity scaring me into salvation. By the time I was a young adult going to college I believe I had become saved at an altar no less than 5, 000 times. I knew more about the wrath of God than I did about the heart and love of God. I had heard the preacher say God loved us so much that he gave us his son who died on a cross for our sins but in my childlike mind I couldn't understand why a loving father would send his son – that he cherished so much to perish brutally on a cross for a people group who had no clue the capacity of love He had for them.

When I turned 40 my life as I knew blew up and shattered into a million pieces. Everything I thought the picture of my life would be like turned drastically into what I would call a war zone. I felt like I was stuck under the rubble of a collapsed building and there was no hope in sight for a rescue squad. My father committed suicide, my marriage was a wreck, I was in the ministry as a pastor's wife and that had come to an end. My heart desperately needed to know God's love because nothing about my life up to this point made any sense. It was in this season that I began to ask God to show me who he was outside of what I had been taught or believed prior to that moment. I remember through tears in the cold dark room of my basement asking the Holy Spirit to teach me and lead me like Jesus said in the word the Holy Spirit's purpose was to do that (John 16:13). I needed a different picture. I remember something rising within me saying, "I will not die here." I began to read my bible with a more open heart. I began to ask him to show me what His word meant in my life and how I could simply walk out what I was reading in my day-to-day life. He began to do just that.

The Lover of My Soul cont.

One time I turned the wrong way down a road and was beating myself up verbally and all of a sudden, I heard a whisper in my heart saying I want you to go this way and not a block later I ran into a young girl from my church who had just gotten her license. She had just gotten in a wreck and needed a momma's heart to support her and give her guidance on what steps to take. I continued to experience such moments.

Experiencing the love of God is not bells and whistles – although at times, I believe he does those things to give us kisses on the cheek and let us know He truly understands our humanity. In my own experience, which is the only thing I can speak from, I have discovered a love like no other. I found a place in my complete brokenness and I cried out on the floor of my closet. I wasn't sure after I poured my heart out to God if He would still love me. I was so angry and broken over all the things that had happened to me, some at my choosing and some at the choice of others. In this moment, I saw the mercy of God that he displayed to me. That while my first was being shaken in his face because of what I thought was lack he really was being a very protective, loving and providing father. After this moment, I began to see people through that same mercy and somehow without me knowing my heart grew in capacity to love others and not be afraid to allow others to love me. For the first time in my life, I began to experience His true love. I no longer was grasping at all costs for my heart to no longer hurt but now I found a place where I knew I was equipped to learn, grow, and had the freedom to just be where I was. I didn't have to strive any longer to be the best, or someone else and there certainly wasn't anything wrong with the essence of who I am except that I just needed Jesus to bind up my wounds. He is my everything. The purpose of this little message here is to say if you have found yourself in a situation where your heart is wounded to the point of an ash heap that God's word is true when he says, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed and commissioned me to bring good news to the humble and afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the wounds of the brokenhearted, to proclaim release from confinement and condemnation to the physical and spiritual captives, and freedom to the prisoners, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord...You shall be called the priest of the Lord; People will speak of you as the ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, and you will boast of their riches. Instead of your former shame you will have a double portion; instead of humiliation your people will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore, in their land they will possess double what they had forfeited; everlasting joy will be theirs. For I, the Lord, love justice."

Tammi



Love Through Healing

*Matthew 14:14 When [Jesus] went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt **compassion** for them and healed their sick.*

A friend of ours that we met through some close friends had excruciating pain in his body and some memory challenges due to an accident at a railway location. He had broken many bones and had to have medical attention and medications for many years, and he was always in great pain.... He was functional, but his business and lifestyle were greatly affected by his condition.

One day, when they were getting close to the day they would relocate to another state, we saw him at our friends' home. Out of the blue, and very uncommon to me, I felt a great wave of compassion rise up very strongly in me for this man and his suffering and felt like I should pray for him. I asked if I could, and he agreed. My husband and I then said a very simple prayer to the Lord Jesus to bring healing and wholeness to him. He thanked us and we left.

A month later, we ran into him. I almost did not recognize him, he looked like a much different person. He was standing quite a bit taller and moved with a smooth and easy gait which was different from his usual slower walk. There was a sparkle in his eye and a big smile on his face. He informed us that he'd just gotten back from a checkup with his doctor and his doctor was amazed at his recent test results.... all his markers were amazingly improved, and she was speechless. You could see the notable change in this man physically, and he told us he just knew it was because of "the Blessing" of the Lord prayed over him.

The Lord is compassionate, and He hears and answers prayer. When He went to the whipping post and to the cross to save us, He not only did so for our eternal security, but for our healing as well. When He left to go back to Heaven, he told his disciples in Mark 16:17-18: " And these signs will follow those who believe [in Jesus] : In My name they willlay hands on the sick, and they will recover." and also, in James 5:16 it says ".... pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Sharol Gutierrez

LOVE
heals

Love Is

What can I say? Love is an overused cliché and a catch-all phrase.

It is used more than ever before, watered down to where the true flavor has gone awry.

Many say they love with a Big "L"...They CAPitalies!

Love has become bland tasting and attained too quick.

For example, last week you just met this man, woman, dude, or chick and now you are walking around in a daze talking about I'm love sick.

This makes me want to throw up.

You must lust or like but for true love to develop it has to mature and grow up.

And when it grows...

Love has deep roots ready and willing to withstand delicate toes being stepped on with steel toed boots.

Love is staying when you are tempted to leave, having faith when it is hard to believe.

Love is listening, gentle touches, and holding.

It is not jealous, manipulation, abuse, and controlling.

Love is a choice. It cannot be manufactured, forced, or silent.

Love will eventually cry out. It has a powerful voice.

And when love speaks...it is in tune, harmony, a melody of soothing music that invokes a smile that never goes out of style.

Love is noticed on the big stage and behind the scenes..."Playing Now..." all throughout the universe... starring... all of us who rehearsed and know our parts, entering in at the right moment to take center stage and melt your hearts.

Love is full of passion and fight.

It stands above all. "Height...", infinity feet tall.

Love is an on time warm blanket that covers you when you are cold. It doesn't say, "see, I told you so."

Love protects, defends, and doesn't keep score.

It takes a hit, but it keeps coming back for more.

That's what love is!

By Anthony J. Butler

Founder/CEO at The VIP Movement • Multigenerational Speaker

Author • VIP Movement Speaking + VIP Consulting Services

PROVERBS 10:12

Proverbs

10:12: Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs.

1 PETER 4:8

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins

EPHESIANS 4:2

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.



LOVE

Hearing From God (Part 2 from last month)

Last time we discussed hearing from God through His word. This is the most common way He speaks to us. His word tells us about things of the past and foretells things of the future. It has poetry and wisdom. It tells us about our Savior. And it tells us His will and His way.

The next common way the Lord speaks to us is to our spirit. We are made up of three parts--spirit, soul (your mind, will and emotions), and body.

Our spirit is the essence of us--it is our being. It is the part that is born again when we accept Jesus. It is brand new when we are saved.

So, to reiterate--the next common way the Lord speaks to us is through our spirit. Sometimes it's a "still, small voice."

Have you ever had times that you just "knew" something? Like, maybe when you should not go to a certain place. Or you just knew when a certain person was not good to be around. Or it might even be something like you knew you should go right home. Or you might have even known when someone needed your help. Or know you were doing the right or wrong thing.

We know these things in our spirit. When we seek to hear from God, often he will give us peace about the thing we have asked about, or sometimes we will get an uneasy feeling about a decision we need to make.

The closer you draw to the Lord, the more sensitive you will become when He speaks to your spirit.

I have many examples of when the Lord spoke to my spirit. This is one of them.

My mother-in-law was in the hospital very ill. She went in on a Wednesday.

I visited her Thursday but not Friday.

On Saturday, I picked up my sister-in-law from the airport. We went directly to the hospital.

Hearing From God (Part 2 from last month) cont.

When we got there, my mother-in-law was awake and talking. She was having a hard time breathing and got choked easily but other than that seemed okay.

We left thinking everything was going to be okay the next day.

The next morning I called about 8:00 to check on her. My sister-in-law told me the doctor had been in. He told my sisters-in-law who had spent the night with their mom that my mother-in-law had 24-48 hours to live.

When I got there a little later that morning, she was sleeping, and my sisters-in-law had already left to go home, so I was alone with her.

I called my husband and father-in-law and family in to see her. My children came to say goodbye.

As the day wore on she was about the same.

About 2:30 I had an urgent feeling that it would not be long, even though, according to the doctor, she had another day or two.

I called my sisters-in-law who still had not come back to the hospital. "When are you coming back up here?"

"We were going to shower and then come back up. Do we need to come now?"

"I think you better get up here as soon as soon as you can," I replied.

"Okay. We will."

They lived about 35 minutes from the hospital. They arrived back to the hospital at 3:30. My mother-in-law passed at 3:50, 20 minutes after they got there.

The urgency I felt was the Lord speaking to my spirit. Because of me following His prompting, my sisters-in-law and their families were able to be there when my mother-in-law passed.

The more we obey His prompting, the more sensitive we will become.

Listen to that still, small voice. In doing so, you will be guided by the Holy Spirit.

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Love Lifted Me

This song carries a very weighted meaning. There is nothing else in life that could lift you or myself out of sin, or that could cleanse us from the stain of sin, the stench of sin, nor deliver us from the taste of sin, but love; the love of Christ. I want you to ponder on the song below, and think about where did love find you, and what did love lift you out of. You see love is not for us but for the other person. Just like the love of Christ that he bestowed on us was not for him, but it was for us. So, when God says a new commandment I give, "Love one another" John 13:34, I don't think that we recognize the power of love. And I don't think we recognize that God has given us the power of love to help others come out of their sins. We must remember that love covers a multitude of sins because it covered our sin. And God has told us that we are to love one another, because love is from God and because God first loved us. We are made in his likeness and in his image therefore we can love others as God loves us.

I was sinking deep in sin

Far from the peaceful shore
Very deeply stained within
Sinking to rise no more

But the master of the sea
Heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me
Now safe am I

Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help
Love lifted me
Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help
Love lifted me

Souls in danger look above
Jesus completely saves
He will lift you by his love
Out of the angry waves

But the master of the sea
Billows His will obey
He your savior wants to be
Be saved today

Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help
Love lifted me
Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help
Love lifted me



Marshelle Lyons

Words to Grow By Linda Lewis Agape Love

What is Agape Love? So glad you asked.

GOD	HUMAN
Unconditional	Conditional
Forgives	Unforgiving
Blesses	Takes
Self-Sacrificing	Self-Benefitting
Everlasting	Temporal

God loves **you** for no reason.
 God loves **you** no matter what.
 God loves **you** way beyond **your** worth.
 He looks beyond every one of **your** faults no matter how big or how small
 And He forgives **you** and still loves **you**.
 He tells **you** in His Word.
 "For I know the thoughts that I think toward **you**, says the Lord,
 Thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give **you** a future and a hope." *Jeremiah 29:11*
 Today as **you** ponder Agape Love, remember
 God's love is unconditional and it does not matter what **you** have done in the past.

Today is a day for new beginnings and He will forgive **you**.
 "Behold, I am with **you** and will keep **you** wherever **you** go, and will bring **you** back to this land; for I will not leave **you**
 until I have done what I have spoken to **you**." *Genesis 28:15*
 That is Agape Love, True Love, Real Love.
 God's love for **you**!

Women Empowering Women

Enough

 You are loved,
 You are valued,
 You are worthy,
 You are beautiful
You are enough!
 God loved you yesterday,
 Loves you still,
 Always has and always will.
You are enough!
 Now get out there and show the world
 Your warmth,
 Your Beauty
 and Your Dignity,
 All of which stem from being a child of God.
 Ready, Set, Go!
Proverbs 31:25-29



Habakkuk 2:2 ESV

And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it."

Write Us – We want to hear from you. We enjoy hearing from you. Here are some things you can write about.

- **Tell us about our magazine**

We want to know what you like about our magazine. What are some of the articles you want to see more of? Are there any specific types of stories that inspire you?

- **Send us something to publish**

Do you write poetry? Do you have a powerful testimony? Do you have a particular scripture that you want to share why it inspires you? Maybe you are an artist and want to share a drawing. Send it to us and let us check it out. If approved we will publish it for others to see. Please refrain from any inappropriate material. We are a Christian organization and will not publish anything that is unsuitable for our readers.

- **Send us your prayer requests or issues you are dealing with**

Are you going through something right now. Write us so we can pray with you. We will respond to your letter with a prayer, scripture and guidance on your issue. We all need someone to touch and agree with us when we are faced with life's challenges.


Growth Ministries Inc.

**P.O. Box 4375
Olathe, KS 66063
www.growthministriesinc.org
info@growthministriesinc.org**

Changing the World One Life at a Time



Just For Laughs!

The priest bent over the dying man, to catch his last words. With his last breath he whispered very pitifully and feebly.

With clarity he said, "I am dying. Go to Fannie. Tell her--I died--with her name--on my lips, that I--loved her, and her alone--always.... And Jennie--tell Jennie--the same thing."



"Why shouldn't you trust a pastry chef on Valentine's Day?" "Because he'll dessert you."

"What do you tell a pig on February 14?" "Happy Valen-swine's Day!"

"How did the squirrel get his Valentine's attention?" "He acted like a nut."

"What do you call sweets that can keep a beat?" "Candy rappers."

"What do you call a romance that starts at the aquarium?" "Guppy love."

"How do vampires know if they had a successful Valentine's Day?" "If it's love at first bite."

"What did the man with the broken leg tell his Valentine?" "I have a crutch on you."



Who *always* has a date on Valentine's Day? **A calendar.**

What Valentine's message can you find in a honeycomb? **"Bee mine."**

Which new Taylor Swift tune is the best couple's song for two ghosts to share? **"Invisible String."**

How did the coin propose to his girlfriend? **He gave her a jingle.**

What did one Hershey's bar say to the other who arrived long past their date time? **"You're chocolate."**

Word Search

God Loves

L K X K G E B D Q F R O O V E R C O M E R M E E
N J A A K J Y G N I K N B R E H T A F W L V V T
B S B V M N I T S G I Y L U F H T I A F M M I Q
Z L T W H E S I A R P F O Y H T R O W N O S T T
T R E R L P O W E R F U L S U O E T H G I R C U
O G O S E Y T I N I R T B S S Y Y U E G U F E R
V H G T S N Z I V P I C O M P A S S I O N A T E
N S B Y A E G V L X N N C O M F O R T E R W O M
Z O D L M E D T J N R E V E R L A S T I N G R T
G P S O R T R L H B A C H R I S T V J F Y R P U
U E V H D P V C V Z F O R E V E R Q W S E M F X
X R F O J X J G K F W A L M I G H T Y D R Q N D
F F D K W X A G G C O R O I V A S U E L L A L H
R E O B R L U F I C R E M N V D L E G I J H L O
T C Y R N E J V J J S W P B C I M I T N E M F L
Q T Y Y H L F D D G H F U M H E C N F R S D F Y
R E V I G R O F R J I P Y T R L E T W K U A V S
H I B V Q W F G O O P P H R E I J V O J S X R P
W E G N I R A C L Y E N U T T Y X P M R Z S Y I
B O A O E M M Q Q G D W X A G K E H S W I W J R
U Y E L R Y M E V C Y G P R O M I S E S G O C I
X V D D E D N E L O V I N G T H T Q E G C H U T
G E X L W R W S C F E C A E P W D R X X F Y G S
D G R A C E L T T A B E H T N O W D I X O M R P

merciful
strength
compassionate
perfect
forever
son
grace
forgiver

blessed
refuge
protective
jesus
promises
christ
savior
creator

redeemer
worshiped
powerful
loving
faithful
won the battle
lord
almighty

comforter
victorious
holy
caring
trinity
overcomer
father
everlasting

peace
healer
righteous
patient
holy spirit
worthy of praise
king