



Session Nine – God's Fourth Rule of Relationship: Love

- **Problem:** Love American style is – an emotion. Mr. Hatch quotes, “Love is an emotion, usually profound, which is experienced as a result of important need and satisfaction.”
 - ◆ No human being can perfectly or consistently satisfy your deep emotional needs.
 - ◆ Eric Fromm *The Art of Loving* says, “There is no enterprise among human beings that starts with such high expectations, that collapses so regularly as love.”

Answer: Go back to the model. Is there love between the members of the Trinity?

John 17:24 (ESV) – ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

- **And what kind of love does God want us to receive and give?**

Answer: Matthew 5:43-44 (ESV) – ⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Mr. Hatch says, “The love that God expects from me towards my wife has absolutely nothing to do with what she does to me. Whether she strokes me right, or whether she gives me what I want, whether she pleases me, whether she does anything to me, this is the absolute standard of the love of God. It has no conditions on it. And I am to love her whether she satisfies my needs or not and if you think that’s a warm little feeling, I’ve got news for you. It is not that. It is something entirely different. That’s the way God loves me, and that’s the way I’m to love her; unconditionally.”

- **How do I love like God loves?**

Answer: Colossians 3:14 (ESV) – ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **Philippians 2:3 (ESV)** – ³ Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Mr. Hatch says, “It starts with a choice of direction. It starts by saying, ‘I’m going to choose to do this’. “Oh,” you say, “that’s not very romantic.” I don’t care if it is romantic or not. God says, “put it on,” “count it so.” And if I count it so in the presence of God, and I trust the Holy Spirit whose fruit will be the love of God, do you know what will happen? Eventually my whole being will be drawn, my mind, my soul, every part and eventually my emo-

tions will be drawn to the welfare of another person, whether they do anything to me or not...My friend, I want to tell you, if you just wait for warm feelings, if you feel it, it's real. If you don't feel it, it's not real. It's not authentic. That's not God's approach. These feelings will be a lying witness...Now in closing let me show you this. Nowhere in Scripture does God say even this kind of love is the foundation for your marriage."

The foundation is a bond based on knowing God has brought us together. Love is more of the fruit not the root. Mr. Hatch says, "I think it would be good for us just to thank God again that He loves us, not like we love. Oh, how pitiful it would be for us if His love was based on our meeting His needs. It has nothing to do with that. God loves me, not because I'm a preacher or have ever done anything for Him. He loves me. It's unconditional. And it's directed toward my good."