

WHY LOVE IS THE GREATEST THING

John 3:16

16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1. Love is the fulfillment of the law

Romans 13:10

10

Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

2. Love outranks faith in the power to motivate people

I John 5:3

3

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

3. Love includes obedience

John 14:15

15

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

4. Love is the heart of the Great Commandment to love God and one's neighbor

Mark 12:28-31

28

And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: Deut 6:4

30

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. Deut 6:5

31

And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. Lev 19:18 Matt 5:43 Matt 19:19 Matt 22:39 Rom 13:9 Gal 5:14 Jam 2:8

5. Love shall abide eternally, whereas both faith and hope shall not

Hebrews 11:13

13

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

I Peter 1:9

9

Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

Hebrews 11:1

1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

6. Love, if lacking in the heart, would prevent one's salvation, even if he possessed "all faith"

I Corinthians 13:2

2

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

7. Love is what Christ has for His church

Ephesians 5:25

25

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;