

## Love?

We live in a strange time. An old song used to say "love makes the world go round." Unfortunately, the frequency with which people change partners, and the people they "love", demonstrates that what is called love today is often simply the desire to have, exploit, and control the "loved one." When passion no longer burns with the same intensity, you just "fall out of love" and move on to your next object of desire.

The excuse for our changeable objects of desire is summed up by the phrase "I don't love him/her any more." That phrase reveals all. The problem is not with the person you said you loved, but with you. You have failed to continue to love them. This is used as an excuse for "moving on." Real love can be defined as "a sacrificial commitment to do others (or another in the case of your spouse) good."

It sounds like an impossible standard. Where can you see an example of what this kind of love looks like in action? The perfect living example of this love is to be seen in what God has done. Probably the most well known verse in the Bible says "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." How did God give His Son? God so loved rebellious man that He committed Himself and all of His resources, including His Son, to do good for human rebels. He sent His Son to die for those rebels. Not only did He give Christ to save rebels. He was active in Christ's death as the One who exacted the penalty that His people deserved, on His Son at the cross. Such a demonstration of God's love calls for a response. The fitting response is that you turn from rebellion and give yourself to Him with the same commitment that He has given Himself to you.

God carried through on His sacrificial determination to save rebels no matter the cost. You are called to give every thing you are to Him, in love.