



RCC Phoenix – 8.30.20 – (Love Series: Week 9) The Highest Goal

This week we conclude our series on love by discussing why love is the _____ goal.

Over the past 8 weeks we have discussed:

1. Love is not an _____.
2. _____.
3. Love _____.
4. Love _____.
5. Love _____.
6. Love _____.
7. Love _____.
8. Love _____.

Mark 2:23-28 NLT

“One Sabbath day as Jesus was walking through some grainfields, his disciples began breaking off heads of grain to eat. But the Pharisees said to Jesus, “Look, why are they breaking the law by harvesting grain on the Sabbath?” Jesus said to them, “Haven’t you ever read in the Scriptures what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He went into the house of God (during the days when Abiathar was high priest) and broke the law by eating the sacred loaves of bread that only the priests are allowed to eat. He also gave some to his companions.” Then Jesus said to them, “The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord, even over the Sabbath!”

The _____ was one of the 10 Commandments and the Jewish people took it very seriously.

Jesus reminds them that the Sabbath was given to meet the needs of the _____ and not the people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath.

It’s as if the religious people were _____ the people by laying a heavy weight on their backs while warning them to not drop it. But Jesus shows them there should be no burden in the Sabbath.

Mark 3:1-5 NLT

“Jesus went into the synagogue again and noticed a man with a deformed hand. Since it was the Sabbath, Jesus’ enemies watched him closely. If he healed the man’s hand, they planned to accuse him of working on the Sabbath. Jesus said to the man with the deformed hand, “Come and stand in front of everyone.” Then he turned to his critics and asked, “Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil? Is this a day to save life or to destroy it?” But they wouldn’t answer him. He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts. Then he said to the man, “Hold out your hand.” So the man held out his hand, and it was restored!”

Jesus healed this man from a _____ of love.

The religious leaders saw a burden. Jesus showed them _____.

1. Love Is Not A _____

- Keeping no record of wrong is noble but it's also freeing for us.
- Not envying others is the correct way to act but it's also one that releases a burden.
- Rejecting arrogance is a worthy effort but humility encourages peace.

When we view love as a _____ to keep instead of the action of a forgiven heart, we take the same approach as the religious leaders.

2. Love Is Not A _____

Love is the _____ of a changed heart.

Love is a _____ growing in the heart that has been changed by the Holy Spirit.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

“Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

When the Spirit of God is living in us, love will begin to _____ from our renewed heart.

3. Love Is Not _____

Proverbs 22:7 NIV

“... and the borrower is a slave to the lender.”

A debt is something _____ to others.

Romans 13:8-10 NIV

“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

1 Corinthians 14:1 NLT

“Let love be your highest goal...”