

# Pastor's Pen

# Grace Gems

What's Love Got To Do With It?

**Let all that you do be done in love. 1 Cor 16:14**

In 1984 Tina Turner released the song "What's Love Got To Do With It." Songfacts writes this about the song, "*In this song, Tina Turner plays the part of a woman who enjoys the carnal encounters with her lover, but feels no emotional attachment. She wants him to know that there's nothing more to it, as for her it's purely physical. Their relationship has nothing to do with love, which she dismisses as "a sweet, old-fashioned notion."* The world cares nothing for Biblical love. Nonbelievers may want to love and be loved, but worldly love is selfish and carnal.

If you ask a Christian what's love got to do with it, the answer should be everything. The church in Corinth lacked exhibiting Christian love. A central theme in 1 Corinthians deals with the church's lack of love for one another. Towards the close of Paul's letter to the church in Corinth, he commands them to let all they do be done in love. It is the same command given to every believer today.

When we love as Christ loves, it complements and balances our actions. Love softens the correction when we have to correct a brother or sister in Christ. It helps us to be firm and prevents us from becoming harsh and our strength from becoming domineering. Christian love allows us to be gentle. It even keeps us from forcing our doctrine upon immature believers.

Love is critical to living a godly life. So much so that Jesus made it a command, "*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another*" (John 13:34). Jesus went on to say, "*By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another*" (John 13:35).

What does love have to do with living a Christian life? You can't live a mature Christian life without love.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Man sins—and God dies!  
(Lewis Bayly, "The Practice of Piety" 1611)

**"Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6**

What had You done, O my sweet Savior, and ever-blessed Redeemer—that You were thus betrayed by Judas, sold to the Jews, apprehended as a malefactor, and led bound as a lamb to the slaughter? What evil had You committed, that You should be thus openly arraigned, falsely accused, and unjustly condemned? What was Your offence? Whom did You ever wrong? that You should be thus . . . woefully scourged with whips, crowned with thorns, reviled with words, buffeted with fists, beaten with staves?

O Lord, what did You do to deserve to have Your blessed face spit upon, and covered as it were with shame; to have Your hands and feet nailed to the cross; to be lifted up on the cursed tree; to be crucified among thieves, and made to taste gall and vinegar; and in Your deadly extremity, to endure such a sea of God's wrath, that made You cry out, as if You had been forsaken by God Your Father; yes, to have Your innocent heart pierced with a cruel spear, and Your precious blood spilt before Your blessed mother's eyes?

Sweet Savior, how much were You tormented to endure all this—seeing I am so much amazed even to think upon it! What is the cause, then, O Lord, of this Your cruel ignominy, passion, and death? I, O Lord—I am the cause of these Your sorrows! My sins wrought Your shame; my iniquities are the occasion of Your injuries; I have committed the fault—and You are punished for the offence; I am guilty—and You are arraigned; I committed the sin—and You suffered the death; I have done the crime—and You hung on the cross!

Oh, the deepness of God's love!

Oh, the amazing profoundness of heavenly grace!

Oh, the immeasurable measure of divine mercy!

The wicked transgress—and the just is punished; the guilty set free—and the innocent is arraigned; the malefactor is acquitted—and the harmless condemned; what the evil man deserves—the holy God suffers! What shall I say? Man sins—and God dies!

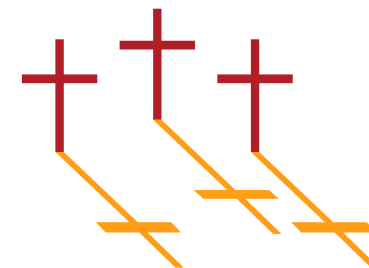
O Son of God! who can sufficiently . . . express Your love, or commend Your pity, or extol Your praise? I was proud—and You are humble; I was disobedient—and You became obedient; I ate the forbidden fruit—and You hung on the cursed tree; evil lust drew me to eat the pleasant apple—and perfect love led You to drink of the bitter cup; I tasted the sweetness of the fruit—and You tasted the bitterness of the gall.

O my God, here I see . . . Your goodness—and my vileness; Your justice—and my injustice. And now, O blessed Lord, You have endured all this for my sake; what shall I render unto You for all Your benefits bestowed upon me, a sinful soul? What shall I render to You, for giving Yourself in Your infinite love, to so cruel a death, to procure my redemption?

## Quote of the Week

"There is no love so great and so wonderful as that which is in the heart of Christ."

-Johnathan Edwards



# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes  
Ladies Class  
Young Adults    Young Parents  
Youth            Surge  
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study  
1st and 3rd Saturday  
Women of Grace | 9AM



## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM  
every other week @ Chambers, Cox's,  
Patrick's, Brown's and Royall's



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team  
and forgot to sign up, please contact the  
team leader at the appropriate email  
address.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study and AWANA!



## Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM  
Sunday School 9:30AM  
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 01/08/2023

General Offering ..... 10,566.00  
Building Fund .....2,230.20  
Uganda .....207.00

Total.....13,003.20  
Attendance ..... 268  
Online.....24

## Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest  
Baptist Church  
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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Jan 15, 2023

Welcome