

The Christmas Love of Time

December 1, 2013

“The Plate Spinner–Christmas Style” (The Ed Sullivan Show) The Christmas season adds more plates to one’s life.

“Life is all about love. Because God is love, the most important lesson He wants you to learn on earth is how to love. It is in loving that we are most like Him, so love is the foundation of every command He has given us: “The whole Law can be summed up in this one command: ‘Love others as you love yourself.’” (The Purpose Driven Life, Rick Warren).

The Five Love Languages:

**1) *quality time* 2) *words of affirmation* 3) *acts of service*;
4) *physical touch* 5) *giving gifts*.**

Paul’s prayer **“I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love...that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”** (Ephesians. 3:18-19).

Remember: everyone speaks a primary love language and has a **“love tank”** within them that needs to be filled with love. If they do not receive this love, their **“love tank”** stays empty, and they feel unloved.

Determining One’s Love Language

The “love language profile” – you would be a multi-lingual lover!

How to discover love language of a young child: **“How does he most often express love to others?”**

“What does the child most often complain about?”

Language of **“Quality Time”** You feel most loved when someone spends time with you.

Quality Time According to Mark 13:32-37

A major spiritual untruth: “the future is sequentially predictable” –millenialists speak of tribulation and rapture. However, Jesus makes it clear; **“Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come”** (Mark. 13:33). Jesus reminds that it could happen during any of the four watches: in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn (Mark. 13:35). – **You just never know.**

The message is clear. Use your time wisely. Be prepared at all times for Christ’s return! **“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”** (Ephesians. 5:15-16)

The word **“Advent”** means **“to come.”** Jesus three comings”: *to Bethlehem, to you, and to earth again*

The primary love language for some of the Old and New Testament saints was “quality time” with God.

David: **“As the deer pants for You, O God, My soul thirsts for God, for the living God....”** (Psalm. 42:1-3, 6, 11). Jesus: **“Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”** (Luke. 2:49)

What about you?

Conveying Love through Time

We get so caught up in “Xmas” that we forget to spend time with God and quality time with one another!

Spend time in worship. Take time to do daily devotionals. Read the Word.

“When you give time, you give life to another person.” (Visit retirement homes, talk to your children and share what the real meaning of Advent and Christmas, JESUS, play family games, go window shopping with your wife, turn off the television, putting the Christmas tree, wrap presents,...

Share Christmas love by sharing TIME!