

Feb 8 – Bible Story – Corinthians (1 Cor 13)

Movie – *Up*

Theme – Love

Today we talk about love as we look at the movie *Up*. It was released on May 29, 2009. *Up* earned \$293,004,164 in the United States and Canada, and \$438,338,580 in other territories, for a worldwide total of \$731,342,744. Worldwide, it is the sixth highest-grossing film of 2009, the fourth highest-grossing Pixar film. *Up* won two awards at the 82nd Academy Awards, for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Score. It is the second of three animated features to have been nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture. *Beauty and the Beast* and *Toy Story 3* were also nominated for Best Picture in their respective years. *Up* also won Best Original Score and Best Animated Feature Film at the 67th Golden Globe Awards. It was nominated for nine Annie Awards in eight categories, winning two awards for "Best Animated Feature" and "Best Directing in a Feature Production".

Who has seen it?

For those of you who have not seen the movie, I'll tell you what it's about.

A young Carl Fredrickson meets a young adventure-spirited girl named Ellie. They both dream of going to a lost land in South America. 70 years later, Ellie has died. Carl remembers the promise he made to her. Then, when he inadvertently hits a construction worker, he is forced to go to a retirement home. But before they can take him, he and his house fly away. However, he has a stowaway aboard: an 8-year-old boy named Russell, who's trying to get an Assisting the Elderly badge. Together, they embark on an adventure, where they encounter talking dogs, an evil villain and a rare bird named Kevin.

This next weekend is Valentine's Day. So I thought we'd talk about love. No other movie shows true love more than the movie *Up*. In almost every other Disney movie, the main characters have just met. But in the movie *Up*, we see true love over a life time. WATCH...

When I talk about love, you may think of your spouse, your children, or your parents. You may even think of your wedding day or Valentine's Day which is Saturday. A common wedding scripture is 1st Corinthians 13: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal... Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude..."

So my question for today is this: Do you love Jesus?

I am not surprised that you would say yes. But let's go a bit farther and really examine this subject:

Does your life show that you love Jesus?

Do your actions prove your love for Jesus?

Are the choices that you make based on your love for Jesus?

Would others testify of your love for Jesus?

Do you really love Jesus?

Kevin L. Jones writes, "You may fool your friends. You may fool your family. You may fool your spouse. You may even fool yourselfBut, you can't fool Jesus."

HE KNOWS YOUR HEART!!! ... So again I ask, "Do You Really Love Jesus"?

Carl really loved Ellie. I really love my husband Eric. We have been married for almost 5 years now. Why do I love him? I love him because he is caring. He would drop anything to go help someone out. He is

dedicated. He works very hard at work and on any project (outside of our garage). I love him because he is low key. I have highs and lows in my job and personally. But he keeps fairly even keeled. That helps to even me out too!

Those are just a few of the reasons why I love my husband Eric. So why do we love Jesus?

So again I ask, "Do You Really Love Jesus"?

Carl really loved Ellie. I really love my husband Eric. We don't do anything for Valentine's Day. But I got to thinking, if I were to give him a Valentine's Day present, what would I get him?

_____ -because he works on cars/trucks/tractors/anything with an engine.

_____ -because he likes IH tractors.

_____ -because the key to a man's heart truly is through his stomach.

These items show I that know Eric. They also show that I love him.

Do You Really Love Jesus? Jesus said, in John 14:15, "If you love me, keep my commandments."

Notice that Jesus begins this statement with "IF". Jesus knew everybody that he was addressing didn't love him. One of his own disciples was preparing to betray him for 30 pieces of silver. If you "Really Do Love Jesus" there will be evidence! Jesus makes it very clear what the evidence of love for him will be.....OBEDIENCE!! Do you live a life in complete obedience to Jesus Christ? Can a non-Christian see what it is to be Christian by watching your daily life?

Kevin Jones writes "There are too many "pew warmers" who want to live life their way and too few Christians. People who want to do what they want to do, when they want to do it! They are not one bit concerned with what God desires or commands.

He goes on to ask:

If you were as devoted to your job as you are to Jesus would you still be employed?

If you were as faithful to your wife/husband as you are to Jesus would you still be married?

If you paid your bills like you pay your tithes would you have food, a vehicle or a home?

If you were as obedient to the secular law as you are to God's commands would you be free or behind bars?

So if we do truly love Jesus, how do we show our love for Jesus?

John Wesley said that we should live our lives according to 3 Simple Rules:

Do no harm; Do good; Stay in love with God

This Valentine's Day I ask you, "Do you love Jesus?" Why do you love Jesus? How do you show your love?

Let's end with this wonderful commercial from Hallmark.

Next week is the final movie in our sermon series. It is also the week of Ash Wednesday. We will continue to talk about love- not how much we love God, but how much God loves us. We're going to take the journey towards Jesus' sacrifice for us, exploring his motivation and our response. So today, this Valentine's Day, and always, tell Jesus you love him! Amen.