

FILLMORE WINGS STUDY PROGRAM

LOVE

UNITY CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL LESSONS

Series 2 Lesson 12



Fillmore Wings Study Program

Love

Lesson 18

TruthUnity Ministries

<https://www.truthunity.net/wings>

Fillmore Wings Study Program

Love

Lesson 18

Copyright 2025. TruthUnity Ministries. All rights reserved.



The Fillmore Wings Study Program is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0) License, except where otherwise noted. You are free to download the work and share it with others as long as you follow the license terms: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode>

All images Licensed from Freepik Company S.L.

First Edition, December 7, 2025

TruthUnity Ministries
PO Box 15
Timonium, Maryland 21094

Web version, USC Annotations and original files for this lesson are available at:
www.truthunity.net/wings/lesson-18

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction to The Fillmore Wings Study Program.....	1
---	---

LESSON 18: LOVE

Introduction	3
God's Love in Us	4
How To Come In Touch With God's Love	8
The Effect of Love in Life	11
Original Instructors' Annotations	16
Recommended Reading	25

APPENDICES

Program Contributors	27
Anticipated Schedule.....	28

THE FILLMORE WINGS STUDY PROGRAM

The *The Fillmore Wings Study Program* is a TruthUnity project that is dusting off and reintroducing what was Unity's foundational study program in Metaphysics for nearly 70 years. Charles Fillmore wrote the first lesson and preached from all 18 lessons for the remainder of his life. It is the program that Eric Butterworth, Johnnie Colemon, Catherine Ponder and Ed Rabel were required to study before entering into Unity's ministry training.

These lessons propelled Unity's tremendous growth from 1909 until the mid-1970s when the concept of "distance learning" by correspondence fell out of fashion. The principles are timeless, the teaching is pristine, and the presentation is clear and direct.

The Fillmore Wings Study Program incorporates the text of the eighteen lessons as it was last published in the 1970s and is supplemented with contemporary footnotes. It also includes the Annotations—notes teachers used to grade student papers. The online version has everything in this printed volume and more, including downloadable PDFs for printing individual lessons.

We recommend supplementing this volume with the *Fillmore Study Bible New Testament*, a Bible with notes and study helps embedded along side of the text, which provides students an easy way to understand the essential metaphysical truths that Charles Fillmore and his students found in scripture. The full text is online at <https://www.truthunity.net/web> and available in printed format from our Giftshop at <https://www.truthunity.net/giftshop>.

The *Fillmore Wings Study Program* and the *Fillmore Study Bible New Testament*, provide a clear and pristine guide to Fillmore spirituality. They also provide a focus for group study, which we call Fillmore Fellowships—study groups that meet independently or in churches. If you find these materials helpful, tell a friend, meet for coffee, start a group. No credentials are needed, only a curious mind and an open heart.

LOVE



INTRODUCTION TO LOVE

Introduction not yet available.

LESSON FOR LOVE


God's Love in Us

? What is love as related to God? Show how love functions as a faculty in man.

1. Divine Mind is another name that may be used for God, or Spirit. Divine Mind is living, radiant Mind essence, or substance, that permeates and enfolds all things and teems with ideas. Divine Mind is the source of all ideas. Ideas have character and are the beginning or the starting point of all action and are the cause of all the results we see in the manifest realm.

2. As with the other qualities of the nature of God studied in previous lessons of this Series, love is an idea of Divine Mind; thus, love is one of the ideas that make up man's divine inheritance. (See *Christian Healing*, page 13.) Love is a principle to be applied; one of the twelve powers of man and thus a faculty of his consciousness, or mind. In Divine Mind love is the idea of universal unity. A definition used frequently by Charles Fillmore in classwork gives a broader approach to this quality: "Love is the attracting, harmonizing, unifying, equalizing, binding (or cementing) idea of Divine Mind."

3. "God is love" (1 John 4:8). If the full force of this statement were to come to one, a marvelous transformation of the whole consciousness would follow. As God is love, so also love is God. Love is God forever in perfect movement within His own being, maintaining unity, balance, among all His ideas in their relation to one another. Love is that idea, or principle, of Being which forever gives or draws to each and every idea all the substance, life, and intelligence necessary for its perfect expression in form.

 4. Love is the coordinating, unifying principle of Being, and when one is guided by spiritual love all the forces of his nature are harmonized and strengthened (*Let There Be Light* 113).

5. Man, created in the image and after the likeness of God, has inhering in his being this divine principle, or idea. As the faculty of love functions in man's consciousness, it unifies and harmonizes all his thoughts and feel-

ings. It draws to him all that he needs to fulfill his mission of the manifestation of his divine nature. Love unifies and harmonizes all his relations with others and with all creation. We see love expressed in man's human relations as devotion, interest, un-selfishness, friendship, goodwill, tenderness, and service to others. The following are excellent definitions of "love" from pages 52 and 55 of *Talks On Truth*:

💡 Love is a divine principle and man can know it in its purity by touching it at its fountainhead. (*Talks on Truth* 52)

💡 Love is the drawing power of mind. It is the magnet of the universe, and about it may be clustered all the attributes of Being, by one who thinks in divine order. (*Talks on Truth* 55)

6. Manifest man is a growing and developing creation, in the process of becoming acquainted with the divine qualities of his spiritual nature, his heritage from God. He is learning how to use the principles, or ideas, of God Mind that are the patterns by which he is to think, feel, speak, act, and react in his daily life. Often, through lack of understanding, he forms limited beliefs and wrong concepts about these divine principles, or ideas, and thus makes for himself wrong patterns which become ruling laws or secondary-producing causes in his life. Love, as it is taken into man's consciousness, takes on the form of his mental concepts and beliefs. The *idea* of love is not changed but the *form of expression* comes forth according to the mental pattern which man has formed.

7. This is what hinders or delays the full realization of the love of God in man's consciousness. This is the reason that we do not always see love being expressed in all its grace and purity, but expressed in selfishness, greed, jealousy, envy, and the like.

❓ What hinders the full realization of God's love?

8. For so long all the sorrows and all the woes of the world have been charged against God that mankind can scarcely realize that God is love. Rather, man thinks of God as a Being who for some mysterious reason wants people to suffer. Now that it is understood that love has been limited in its *expression* and that men are responsible for their own suffering, caused by lack of understanding and misuse of the inherent powers of their being, the chief barrier between them and the full realization of God's love is removed.

9. It is man's work to understand and give full expression, in divine order, to this love principle in him the faculty in his own consciousness.

Love forever urges man onward and upward toward the highest endeavor; urges him to manifest that for which he was created; urges him to reciprocate in love toward God and toward man the love that God has shown toward man in creating him in His image and after His likeness. Love is the unifying quality in each man's own particular world. When love is given the opportunity to function in its purity in man's thoughts, feelings, and actions, it unifies, heals, harmonizes, blesses, and prospers all the different forms of expression in his human experience.

10. The great question is: "How can each person come into the consciousness of universal love and give it expression in his individual life?" The way to the Father is through the Son. "I am the way" (John 14:6). In the Son are all the attributes (ideas) of the Father-Mind. Then in the Son, the Christ, the perfect-idea man, is love in its perfection. As Christ is God individuated as man, so Christ love is individual love that can be expressed universally. We may measure the Christ love by what it includes.

💡 11. He drew a circle that shut me out—
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in!
—"Outwitted," by Edwin Markham.

12. It is the same yesterday, today, and forever; for it is God-consciousness giving to all its ideas all the good needed for perfect expression.

13. Manifest man's lack of understanding of the true nature of the love idea, and how it is to function as a faculty in his consciousness, often causes man to base his love on his feelings or emotions. A person's concept, understanding, and expression of universal love makes it personal to him, and it is called "personal love":

💡 Personal love is part of the law, but divine love fulfills the law (*Talks on Truth* 153).

14. This *personal expression* of love is varied, since it depends on how the person thinks and feels. It is often limited to what it possesses; limited to certain people, things, and conditions. Yet, being swayed by the individual's state of mind, the expression of love may not always be directed to the same people, things, and conditions. God's love, being universal, unchanging, unlimited, is constantly in expression whether man responds or not; it does not change because of feelings. The limited expression of love that takes in only "my family," "my people," and "my country" never knows the joy of entering into universal love, where all men are recog-

nized and loved as brothers.

✍ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love remains in death (1 John 3:14).

✍ “Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God ... and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is love” (1 John 4:7, 8). “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35).

15. Since the Son, the Christ, is the *real* of every individual, it is clear that this great fountain of universal love is not something far removed from man but is within him. No long pilgrimages, no agonizing days and nights of seeking are necessary to “finding” love. Being always part of the God nature, love is always present, ready to express itself in blessing when men open their mind and heart to receive it.

16. As long as man believes himself to be a creature separate from God, unlike Him in all ways, it is difficult for him to claim his birth-right as the son of God. Man has been taught that he must fear God; that God punishes him, and that it is “sacrilegious” to claim any kinship with Him, let alone claim to be the *beloved* son of God. Many have been taught that the Christ was only the man Jesus who was crucified on Calvary. Unenlightened man does not know that the Christ is spiritual man, the spiritual nature of God within every man, through which all have access to the love of God. “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27).

17. We consciously claim our oneness with God’s love by speaking the word, or by affirming, and then establishing it in consciousness through meditation, prayer, and the Silence:

💡 But the more we talk about love, the stronger it grows in the consciousness, and if we persist in thinking loving thoughts and speaking loving words, we are sure to bring into our experience the feeling of that great love that is beyond description—the very love of God (*Talks on Truth* 51, 52).

18. Jesus says, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). He is telling every man how consciously to unify himself with the Christ, I AM, the law of his being. Jesus taught that through love man is freed from all limitations of mind and condition; that man must learn the character of the love of God, must learn to discriminate (use of the faculty of judgment) between spiritual living and living in a consciousness of belief in sin, sickness, sorrow,

and death. When through denials, affirmations, meditation, prayer, and the Silence, man consciously unifies himself with the Christ self within, love spontaneously pours itself through his consciousness (thinking and feeling) and out into his body and affairs. This equalizing, harmonizing, healing stream of love renews his mind by cleansing his consciousness of all adverse feelings by its own pure nature.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

How To Come In Touch With God's Love

? Explain how adverse feelings and emotions in man's consciousness may be erased, how his consciousness may be transformed, bringing his body and his entire world into harmony.

19. To come in touch with the love of God, direct your attention within to the very heart, or core, of your being and concentrate on the love center or faculty. Meditate on the quickening spirit of love and speak words of Truth such as these:

💡 God is love.

💡 I am the living expression of the love of God.

💡 The infinite love of God is now made manifest in and through me.

20. Affirmations of this nature will quicken the consciousness (thinking and feeling) and charge the cells of the body with positive love. The body has no initiative of its own, and therefore it is vitally important that no negative condition be impressed upon it by the misuse of the faculty of love.

21. It is more or less universally accepted that the heart *symbolizes* the love center or faculty. It is not essential to go into detailed explanation of how the emotion or feeling named "love" functions at this center. However,

various experiences in man's life prove that the physical organism is affected by his emotions. Only as adverse feelings are replaced by feelings of love is man able to erase error beliefs from his mind so that it is transformed, bringing not only his body but his entire world into harmony with God's laws.

22. With the mind's eye of faith, one sees, or perceives, the unity of physics and metaphysics and realizes that the brain cells have spiritual cores that receive and carry the thoughts and emotions of the presiding ego. Thus, the body is seen as a perfectly planned receiving and broadcasting station capable of transmitting the ideas of Divine Mind. Not only do the nerves correspond to the wires of our telegraph and telephone systems, but there are also "wireless waves" of mental energy traveling through space in every direction.

23. Every nerve and gland in the body must be charged with the power of the Christ consciousness through often repeated affirmations of the dominion of spiritual man, the Christ, the I AM. In this way the body is regenerated, lifted up to its rightful place as the temple of God, and the "disciples," the faculties of mind, are educated in the laws of the kingdom of God. Through this daily education, we begin to experience true love, divine love, and we feel its healing currents flowing all through the body, and then out into our world of affairs.

24. Any attempt to force the will to do loving things—without any feeling of love because we think we *ought* to do them—ends in failure. Every day there should be meditation upon divine love, and its full, free expression through man's faculty should be declared. Unless the true nature of love is firmly established in consciousness, it cannot be expressed unfailingly at all times. We cannot express that which we do not consciously have in us. The heart must be opened to the loving, unselfish Christ Spirit, and a consciousness of universal love must be cultivated. When the spirit of love is active in the consciousness of man, it becomes easy to do loving things. The attitude of other persons should not have any influence on our actions. Hate is not overcome by will power and by hard mental effort, but by filling the heart so full of love that there is no room for any adverse feeling. Many persons try to be forgiving, but do not succeed because they try of themselves as human beings instead of opening their heart to the loving, forgiving Spirit of Jesus Christ.

? How is peace to be established upon the earth? Give two Bible prophecies (with references) of universal peace.

25. Man is sent forth by God as His agent, or representative, on earth to

have dominion and authority and to rule with a spirit of love in the same way that God's kingdom in the heavens of Mind is ruled. All the ideas of Divine Mind are constructive, good; therefore all man's concepts should work toward building up and not tearing down the good. Every belief that man establishes within his consciousness has an effect upon his body and affairs in accordance with its character, whether constructive or destructive. By persistent cultivation of the love idea, man can change his beliefs of limitation and thus rebuild his body, cell by cell, through the power of his word spoken from the Christ consciousness. The body will then spontaneously express the radiant life of God.

26. Love takes away all thoughts of destruction. When love is developed as Jesus Christ expressed it, all destructive man-made things in the universe will be abolished. When divine love fills the consciousness, there is no place for warring or contentious thoughts; no place for greed, envy, hate, or jealousy, for love lifts all things into one harmonious whole. In the great day when love shall reign, "They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain" (Isaiah 65:25). The Gospel of John emphasizes love, and the Letters of John declare the love of God. In the First Letter John writes: "He who loves his brother abides in the light ... But he who hates his brother is in the darkness . . . and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes" (1 John 2:10, 11).

27. Looking through the personality of Jesus, John saw the Christ: "In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4, 5). It was into the darkness of human ignorance, or lack of understanding, that Jesus carried the light of infinite wisdom and love, an understanding of men's common relationship through a common source (the brotherhood of man through the Fatherhood of God). Only when we are willing and ready to *let* the light of God's love shed its brightness upon all alike, shall we be able to find our own way in life without stumbling. Then our demonstrations of good will be made through the indwelling love and intelligence of Divine Mind—moving in and through us.

28. "Love does no wrong to a neighbor" (Romans 13:10), therefore love is the remedy for all labor difficulties. Strife and contention have no place in the love of God, and justice and peace cannot be established in an individual, or in a nation, except through the expression of that love. "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44) is the teaching of Jesus Christ. By following this teaching, one ushers in the reign of peace when men shall:

 Beat their swords into plowshares,

and their spears into pruning hooks:
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
 neither shall they learn war any more;
 but they shall sit every man under his vine and
 under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid;
 for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken
 (Micah 4:3, 4).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

The Effect of Love in Life

? What effect do evil thoughts and words have upon man's whole being?

29. David understood the power of words; he speaks of men whose tongues are "sharp swords" (Psalms 57:4) and who are "bellowing with their mouths" (Psalms 59:7). Solomon too had this understanding when he said: "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing" (Proverbs 12:18). Jesus said, "All who take the sword will perish by the sword" (Matthew 26:52). Swords are not always made of steel, but they may represent any weapon that man uses against his fellowman. Evil thoughts and words produce destructive effects in the world. Knowing this, we shall take care not to use such thoughts and words. Every unkind word we speak is as a two-edged sword that hurts the one toward whom it is directed only if he accepts it, and it reacts upon the one who sends it forth unless he is quick to erase it with forgiveness. Love will send forth words of blessing and heal the wounds which have been made by unloving words.

30. Levi, one of the sons of Jacob, and John, one of the apostles of Jesus, each represent "love." In the Old Testament, the twelve sons of Jacob symbolize "The first, or natural, bringing forth of the faculties. A higher expression of the faculties is symbolized in the "Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ" (*Christian Healing* 73). The word Levi means "joining," "clinging."

The Levites were chosen to serve in the sanctuary of the Temple, thus symbolizing the truth that love as the “fulfilling of the law” (Romans 13:10) is required before man can manifest Godlikeness in its fullness, for it takes love to fulfill all of the other powers (laws). As David, who represents divine love, unified the twelve tribes of Israel into one great working unit, so love, active in man’s consciousness, unifies all his faculties of mind so that they function together in divine order and work as a unit to fulfill the purpose for which man was created— “to demonstrate the Truth of Being” (*Christian Healing* 55).

? How does love help one to build a consciousness of eternal life and to demonstrate it?

31. A consciousness of “eternal life” is attained only through the unification and right use of the faculties of mind. This is possible only as divine love is developed in man’s thinking and feeling natures. A love of life stirs in man the desire to know more about eternal life and to manifest it in his body.

💡 32. "We can have fullness of life by realizing that we live in a sea of abundant, omnipresent, eternal life, and by refusing to allow any thought to come in that stops the consciousness of the universal life flow. ... Every time we think life, speak life, rejoice in life, we are setting free, and bringing into expression in ourselves more and more of the life idea" (*Jesus Christ Heals*, 105).

33. It is possible for man, in his ignorance, to put the power of his love faculty upon that which is not good. We speak of “love of power” that leads to domination and dictatorship; even Paul warns of the “love of money,” meaning the desire for money for its own sake rather than for the fulfillment of its true purpose as a medium of exchange. When man has not a true picture of substance and puts too much emphasis upon the outer forms, then he is prone to unhappiness or disappointment when the forms are no longer available. When man sees the formed things of the world as the outer forms of “ideas” clothed in divine substance that has taken form in what is termed “matter,” then he knows that “nothing is lost in Spirit” for the idea remains always ready to be re-clothed to fit the needs of man and all creation. When love is directed toward God’s world and the things of His world, it becomes appreciation of the gift and the Giver and there is willingness to release all that has served its purpose to make way for greater expression of good.

? How is fear overcome?

34. “Divine love in the heart establishes one in fearlessness and indomitable courage” (*Christian Healing*, 138). Fear comes because of man’s belief in two powers, good and evil, and he feels that evil is threatening him and he desires to avoid or escape it.

💡 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love (1 John 4:18).

35. When the love of God fills the heart, it dispels all fear, and the individual can truly say in the words of the Psalmist, “I fear no evil; for thou art with me” (Psalms 23:4). Love abiding actively in the soul of man enables him to “practice the Presence of God” and to know this Presence as the omnipresent protection for himself and his loved ones and for every living soul.

? Explain the first commandment as it was given by Jesus, giving the Scripture quotation and Bible reference.

36. We know the emphasis Jesus placed upon “love,” for in giving what we often hear termed as the “love commandments” Jesus said “There is no other commandment greater than these” (Mark 12:31). The first commandment has to do with the individual, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The “Lord your God” is one’s own indwelling Christ, the I AM, the Spirit of God in each man, one’s own divinity. To “love the Lord your God,” then, is to be aware of this indwelling Presence, to be unified, harmonized, consciously one with it. Through knowing our identity as I AM, as one and the same as universal Spirit, we know that we are never separated from our Source, and each one is an expresser of all that I AM is. Thus, we see that the first commandment of love is recognition of our own divinity.

? Explain the second commandment as it was given by Jesus, giving the Scripture quotation and Bible reference.

37. As there is only one God—“The Lord our God, the Lord is one” (Mark 12:29)—one I AM who is identical in all forms, we cannot be separated from any other human being. We live in God, the one Presence, the one Power, that is constantly inspiring and sustaining all. Thus, the second commandment comes in natural sequence, “The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (Mark 12:31). Once aware of our own divinity, the Christ, or I AM, within, in order for love to fulfill its mission, there must be recognition of the divinity of “our neighbor.” We see our

neighbor seeking to express his true nature in accord with his own understanding, and our love for him removes all barriers of limited thinking about him from our own mind.

? What is the relation of wisdom to love?

38. While all of the twelve faculties are to be developed under the direction of the I AM, or Christ Spirit, we find that study of these faculties enables us to see which ones need to be developed together. In the last lesson we studied about “judgment,” which is the ability to discern, discriminate, choose, or select. When we have balanced our “judgment faculty” with understanding, then it becomes a safe companion for the “love faculty.” Wisdom is practical spiritual knowledge from the Light within; it is the inspiration that comes from Spirit in the “secret place of the most High” and it is the only safe guide to the development of all our faculties. When love and judgment are united in wisdom, then the two faculties will be expressed in divine order. Love is a spirit of giving; unless it is directed, it will pour itself out without discrimination or judgment. Love must be guided by good judgment, and judgment must be tempered with love. When love and judgment work with the wisdom of God, the result is quick intuitional knowing; while love acting independently may bring unpleasant results. The loving parent who indiscriminately gives to the child can bring harm; whereas the parent seeking to use judgment without love may also cause unhappiness in the child, for judgment working independently of love and wisdom is harsh and unfeeling. Love alone may be impulsive; but united with judgment that is guided by wisdom, it receives direct leading from Spirit, which always shows the right course. A good prayer treatment for health, prosperity, peace, and everything else desirable, is:


💡 39. “Through God’s wisdom, love and judgment are united in me.”
 “Love is an inherent power that, if allowed to be expressed in one’s life, will transform every inharmony, will transmute every negative condition into part of the harmonious whole. The results of love are always good” (*Dare To Believe!* 103, 104).

40. The love of God toward men is expressed fully and freely in the Scriptures as lovingkindness and tender mercy, and in many other ways that the unenlightened do not recognize. No one has ever comprehended this love in its fullness except Jesus Christ; but as it is believed in and trusted, the consciousness expands in the realization of the true character of divine love.

🔗 Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lov-

ingkindness have I drawn thee (Jeremiah 31:3 A.V.).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

 This lesson was transcribed on April 20, 2021 by Coy Brock.

ANNOTATIONS FOR LOVE

💡 Here are the *Annotations for Series 2, Lesson 12, Love*. These questions and answers were used to “grade” papers and so they represent the “correct answers.” We’ve included them in this course guide to provide a second look at what the Fillmores wanted their students and ministers to know.

God’s Love in Us

? 1. What is love as related to God? Show how love functions as a faculty in man.

"Love in Divine Mind, is the idea of universal unity. In expression, love is the power that joins and binds in divine harmony the universe and everything in it."—Charles Fillmore *Christian Healing* 130, Chapter 12, paragraph 4. In his teaching Charles Fillmore said, "Love is the attracting, harmonizing, unifying, equalizing, binding or cementing idea or quality in Divine Mind."

Love is one of the twelve spiritual faculties or powers, the gift of God to man. Love, unity, oneness, are identical. Love is the attractive force of nature, ceaseless attraction, which holds the planets in their courses. On the physical plane, love is the law of gravity, so far as this planet is concerned. Love is the magnet by which one idea, person, animal, or molecule is drawn or attracted to another of like kind. Love binds and holds together God and man, as well as all humanity and all creation. Love holds persons and things together; love causes people and things to "stick together."

Love is the idea behind service, and forgiveness is the love of God in action. "The Holy Spirit is the love of Jehovah taking care of the human family, and love is always feminine. Love is the great harmonizer and healer, and whoever calls upon God as Holy Spirit for healing is calling upon divine love."—Charles Fillmore *Jesus Christ Heals* 183, Chapter 12. Love, in its essence, is symbolically the "spiritual oil" that binds and heals wounds in mind and body, consciousness and manifestation.

All unselfishness is love, and love is the Holy-Mother Principle, the Motherhood of God. "God is love,"—1 John 4:16, so love is God or one phase of God's expression. "Love is the fulfillment of the law."—Rom. 13:10. Love is the means whereby man is brought into conscious contact with the Divine. The grace of God is the love of God for man and for all His creation, and we need only to recognize it, accept it, and let it radiate through us to bless ourselves, everyone else, and everything, everywhere.

? 2. What is the difference between universal love and personal love?

Universal love is the WHOLE of God's love, or divine love, while personal love is the expression that man gives to love according to his understanding and aim. "Personal love is part of the law, but divine love fulfills the law."—Charles Fillmore Talks on Truth, chapter 13, paragraph 18. [TruthUnity note: I do not see this quote in the current version of Talks on Truth].

The difference between universal love and personal love may be likened to the difference between Divine Mind and the human consciousness—the lesser is contained within the greater—one is an emanation of the other, but the limited (personal) must be lifted up to the unlimited (universal).

Universal love is love unobstructed by personal concepts. In the cosmos it evidences itself as terrestrial gravitation, as the systematic movement of planets in the solar system, as the orderly progress of the seasons, as the response of growing things to sun and rain and warmth. Universal love is the power of affinity and attraction operative at all levels.

An individual's concept, understanding, and expression of universal love make it personal love to him. In interpersonal relations love is evidenced as devotion, interest, unselfishness, friendship, co-operation, good will, tenderness, affection, consideration, forgiveness, service.

It is correct to say that the difference between universal love and personal love is in degree of expression only. Unless man exercises wisdom and good judgment, he may express personal love in foolish, selfish, unwise, binding ways. However man's vision and comprehension of love are expandable without limit. When man comprehends that God is love and that he may contact love within himself, he will come into the consciousness of universal love and give it expression.

Universal love strengthens love in all departments of man's being, and

much good is attracted to him because of his expression of the God-nature inherent in his being.

In both its universal and personal expressions, love is the substantial and enduring part of man and the universe.

How To Come In Touch With God's Love

? 3. What hinders the full realization of God's love?

The chief obstacle which has hindered the realization and expression of divine love is that man has looked around and has seen a world burdened with suffering and sorrow and has been taught to believe that all this woe and misery has been sent by God. On the other hand he has been told that God is love. Apparent facts on the one side disprove the statement on the other side; common sense and a belief in the nature of goodness cannot reconcile the two statements. Very slowly we are beginning to accept the fact that we ourselves, not God, are responsible for our sufferings. As we sow, so shall we reap. With this new understanding God's true character is at last vindicated.

Another obstacle is that the love current in man in many instances has remained dormant so long that its power to respond has become sluggish. The third obstacle lies in the fact that Biblical statements of love have been heard so frequently that they cause no feeling, awaken no response. They are spoken as mere platitudes. They will make no impression until they are made luminous by the quickening of Spirit. No person has yet fully comprehended the love of God, but the capacity to feel that love exists in everyone. It can be developed by believing in it and trusting it. When men comprehend that love can be contacted within, they will become conscious of and express universal love.

The slowness of man to recognize the oneness (unity) of God and himself hinders his realization of God as love. Man has been taught to fear God, to fear His punishments, to fear to claim his kinship because it was "sac-rilegious." He has not been taught the love of God which is a part of himself, or his oneness with God through the Christ within himself, through which there is access at all times to the loving Father.

? 4. Explain how we may come into the consciousness of divine love.

The way to God, the Father, is through the Son. The Son, I AM, the Christ, the ideal man, holds all the attributes or ideas of the Father. It follows that

the Son, I AM, the Christ, the ideal man, which is the Spirit indwelling every man, is love in its perfection. It is also clear that since the Son dwells in every man the great fountain of love is within every one of us ready to be realized and used whenever we turn to it and become consciously one with it. Love is a reality; it is Spirit; it is substance; and every individual has free access to it whenever he brings himself into harmony with it. By expressing love in our thoughts, words, feelings, and actions in our everyday human relationships we come into the consciousness of divine love.

? 5. What nerve plexus in the body of man is regarded by metaphysicians as being the center of emotions and feelings?

The solar plexus, the abdominal brain of the body, is the receiving and broadcasting center of emotions and feelings, and is so regarded by metaphysicians. Chapter 1 of *The Twelve Powers of Man* is suggested as a reference bearing on this question. However, with regard to feelings of love, or feelings concerned with human relations, we find that the center that is often affected first is the cardiac plexus, back of the heart. See *Talks on Truth* Lesson 5, "The Development of Divine Love", and Charles Fillmore *Christian Healing* 130.

Why We Sometimes Struggle With Love

? 6. Explain how adverse feelings and emotions in man's consciousness may be erased, how his consciousness may be transformed, bringing his body and his entire world into harmony.

"Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."—Romans 12:2. "Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."—Philippians 2:5. God gave man dominion and mastery over his feelings and emotions, over his thoughts and words, over his body, his actions, and his affairs when He created man in His image and placed that image in man's being as the Son, I AM, the Christ. Man's work is to become conscious of his Sonship. This is done through prayer and meditation, through denial and affirmation, through realization of the Truth about himself, and through thanksgiving. Man must live the life of Christ, which is the life of mastery over his own thoughts, feelings, words, actions, and reactions, knowing that all his thoughts, feelings, words, and actions conform to the Christ standard of righteousness and love. Then adverse feelings which have been in man's consciousness are lifted up and redeemed, his consciousness is transformed into divine love, and his body is transmuted into perfect harmony.

? 7. Why does it sometimes seem hard to express love?

It sometimes seems hard to express love because we do not systematically feel loving as a regular everyday thing. We feel loving toward some people only and under certain conditions. When people do not please us we are inclined to feel resentment and impatience rather than love. Unless love is firmly established in consciousness, it cannot be expressed unfailingly at all times. The heart must be opened to the loving, unselfish Christ Spirit, and universal love must be cultivated until the love center in consciousness becomes active and the heart is filled with the love flow. Then it will be easier to do loving things than not to do them. The attitude of other people should not have any influence on our actions. The more unloving others are, the more we should focus our love on them and try to dissipate their hardness. The standard that Jesus gave was not only to love our neighbors but even our enemies.

? 8. Explain how peace will be fully established upon the earth. Give at least two Bible prophecies (with references) of universal peace.

Peace will be fully established upon the earth when each individual becomes fully conscious of the idea of peace that is already inherent within him as God's gift to him which is his divine inheritance and birthright, and expresses peace in his thoughts, feelings, words, actions, and reactions. The individual becomes conscious of peace as he cultures his soul through prayer and meditation, and by yielding himself to the love and wisdom of the indwelling Christ. Man attains a consciousness of peace when he is willing to practice the Golden Rule and does so by acting Christ-like in his relationships with all others. "Love thy neighbor as thyself."—Matt. 19:19, Matt. 22:29, and Mark 12:31.

As the individual becomes conscious of peace within himself he becomes a radiating center of peace in his own personal world. A peaceful person is a harmonizer, an influence for peace throughout the whole wide world. We see then, that peace is an individual matter. Individual prayers for world leaders help to quicken a consciousness of peace within them, giving them new understanding, and inspiring them to right action for the good of all mankind. We can see also the importance of the individual in the manifestation of world peace as he makes his contribution in helping to establish the kingdom of peace on earth by being peaceful in his own environment and surroundings. True peace manifesting in the minds and hearts of men will show forth the fulfillment of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. *"Almighty Father, let there be love and peace on earth and let them begin in my heart."*

? 9. What effect do evil thoughts and words have upon man's whole being?

Destructive thoughts and words produce distortions of the mind which shows forth as cruelty and injustice and a tendency to tear down the good for which others are striving. Jealousy, envy, hatred, poverty, and various other kinds of wickedness have a way of weaving themselves into the character and lives of those who entertain them. They produce inharmonious conditions in the body and affairs, the outpicturing of the thoughts and feelings of the individual.

? 10. What is Unity's teaching about vegetarianism?

Charles and Myrtle Fillmore believed in vegetarianism from the standpoint of love and mercy, believing that the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," — Exod. 20:13 — applied not only to man but to all of God's creatures.

However, Unity teaches that abstaining from eating meat is a matter for individual guidance, according to inner convictions. Undoubtedly the race will eventually come to use an entirely different type of food, as we grow and develop spiritually, as we come into a fuller realization of the oneness of all life. Just to abstain from the outer act of eating meat does not guarantee spirituality. If the abstinence is the result of an inner desire and conviction, then it is part of spiritual unfoldment. Otherwise, it should not be forced. In regard to vegetarianism, Unity leaves the individual free to make his own decision.

Developing a Loving Consciousness

? 11. Which of Jacob's sons and which of Jesus' disciples represent love?

Of the sons of Jacob, Levi, and of the disciples of Jesus, John, represent love in man. The Levites were chosen to serve in the sanctuary of the temple, typifying that love is nearest to God. John's gospel is about love, and his epistles make love the supreme thing.

? 12. What is the cause of darkness in the consciousness?

Our giving up to passing waves of anger, hate, fear, jealousy, greed, or clinging to some old grudge will cause darkness in our consciousness. Love must be allowed to shine on all alike, and when we can love all alike

then we may expect our prayers to be of avail. Jesus said, "If therefore thou art offering thy gift at the altar (prayer), and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."—Matt. 5:23,24. We are to live our lives so that there will not be even an appearance of anything unlike love.

? 13. Why is it unwise to love worldly things?

Worldly things are transient and pass away, even those things that we usually consider to be the most permanent. Love is ceaseless attraction, and it has the quality of concentrating on its object. When the object is transient and passes away, there is a sense of loss and a break in the flow of love through us, a damming up of the stream of love. We bind ourselves, attach to us worldly things, and by so doing we give them our time and attention and forget the spiritual ideas which are eternal.

? 14. How does love help one to build a consciousness of eternal life and to demonstrate it?

The character of man as well as his life's experiences are determined by the nature of the things on which he sets his love. When love is fixed on values rather than things, a consciousness of reality and abiding life results. As the unifying principle, love contributes to the increasing demonstration of life because it attracts and unifies those spiritual qualities or ideas that are conducive to the expression of life.

? 15. How is fear overcome?

Love is the antidote for fear. Ignorance and lack of a consciousness of love form darkness in the consciousness, and it is the darkness which is feared, darkness that may hold fearful thoughts, feelings, beliefs. It is always the unknown that we fear, but when love is turned on, the darkness dispelled, and the shadows chased away, there is no cause for fear. "Perfect love casteth out fear, because love is light.—1 John 4:18.

Living a Loving Life

? 16. Give two Bible prophecies of universal peace.

- Psalms 29:11
- Isa. 2:2-4 and Micah 4:1-3

- Isa. 9:6,7
- Isa. 32:16-18
- Hosea 2:18
- Rev. 22:1-5
- Ezek. 34:25,26

? 17. What is the meaning of the prophecy, "All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword"?—Matthew 26:52.

This illustrates that what we give out will come back to us. A sword has a meaning of an offensive weapon. Offensive weapons are not confined to things of steel but dwell in the power of an unwise tongue and an untrained mind. If we try to conquer our neighbors or to suppress their ideas by the force of our thoughts and words, we should be willing to accept the return action of such thoughts and words. If we send them thoughts of love that are willing to see the Christ in the other fellow as well as in ourselves, thoughts of love will come back to us multiplied, but if we send out the daggers of hatred, they will come back to us multiplied.

? 18. Explain the first commandment as it was given by Jesus, giving the Scripture quotation and Bible reference.

The first commandment as given by Jesus, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind,"—Deut. 6:5 and Matt. 22:37, does not refer to some far separate being who is a terrible being. "The Lord thy God" refers to the I AM or Christ indwelling in each one. God is in us, and we are In God forever more. We shall love that in ourselves which is good (God). When we love the good we shall do no evil to ourselves or to others, for we shall know that God is seeking to express His love through us.

? 19. Explain the second commandment as it was given by Jesus, giving the Scripture quotation and Bible reference.

Jesus was the great exponent and advocate of love in all its ways and channels of expression. He saw and approved the spirit of "Love thy God," and He desired that His disciples and followers should also see Truth. Because He saw many things that His disciples failed to grasp, it was necessary that He explain or carry the idea a little further, and so He spoke the second commandment. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."—Matt. 22:39, Lev. 19:18. The main idea is love, the love of God for

man and man for God. God is no respecter of persons. As God loves all, for God is love, and as this love is for all His children, so all His children love one another if they let themselves become expressions of love. The same God that is pressing out from you is also pressing out from your neighbor. If we love God, we must love our neighbor, God's expression.

? 20. What is the relation of love to wisdom?

The relation of love to wisdom is that of heart and mind, of feeling and thought, of the feminine and masculine characteristics in the individual nature. The balanced union of the two is conceived to be the harmonious state for man. Love guided by wisdom leads to peace, happiness, and safety. Wisdom directed by love leads to mercy, justice, and truth in all things. Love with wisdom directing it harmonizes discordant conditions in the mind and in the world. Wisdom and love united will bring peace on earth and good will to man. "The love of Christ ... passeth knowledge," — Eph. 3:19, but even if men would take the wisdom they have and combine it with the love they have, the world would be transformed and civilization would begin to unfold in the way of peace and understanding.

RECOMMENDED READING

✍ Charles Fillmore, *Christian Healing*, Love.

Love

APPENDIX

CONTRIBUTORS

✿ The following people have contributed to The Fillmore Wings Program in some significant way. This collaboration project is managed by TruthUnity Ministries, which is the publisher of The Fillmore Study Program materials. In time the Fillmore Wings Study Program will become a free-standing ministry with its own board, Editorial staff and peer-review committee.



Cora Alexander, LUT. Teacher, Educational Consultant, Content Editor.



Rev. Mark Hicks. General Editor, Teacher, Publisher.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

What is the Vision for the Fillmore Wings Study Program? the Fillmore Wings Study Program is a series of lessons that cover Series One and Series Two of the Unity Correspondence Course over a two-year period.

The Fillmore Wings Study Program is designed so that the eighteen lessons are covered in six three-month sessions over a two-year period. Each three-month session will cover three lessons, one per month. Here is an anticipated schedule.

The Fillmore Wings Study Program Schedule

Session	Materials	Topics
Sept, Oct, Nov	Lessons 1-3	The Silence, Healing, Prosperity
Jan, Feb, Mar	Lessons 4-6	Body of Christ, Overcoming, Demonstration
May, June, July	Lessons 7-9	God, Christ, Man
Sept, Oct, Nov	Lessons 10-12	Thoughts, Affirmations, The Word
Jan, Feb, Mar	Lessons 13-15	Prayer, Faith, Imagination
May, June, July	Lessons 16-18	Will & Understanding, Judgment, Love

LOVE

UNITY CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL LESSONS

Series 2 Lesson 12

The Unity Correspondence School Lessons were Unity's SEE program for nearly 70 years. Charles Fillmore wrote the first lesson and preached from all 18 lessons for the remainder of his life. It is the program that Eric Butterworth, Johnnie Coleman, Catherine Ponder and Ed Rabel were required to study before entering into Unity's ministry training.

For nearly sixty-five years the lessons provided truth principles to laypeople and trained them for ministry. The lessons in the course propelled Unity's tremendous growth from 1909, when Charles Fillmore wrote the first lesson, until the mid-1970s when the concept of "distance learning" by correspondence fell out of fashion. The principles are timeless, the teaching is pristine, and the presentation is clear and direct.

Fillmore Wings is three things. First, it is a collaboration of scholars and students who study, meet, discuss the original lessons, and develop commentary and footnotes appropriate for

present-day understanding and language. We anticipate a 2-3 year timeframe for the development of commentary and footnoting.

Second, Fillmore Wings is also the content developed by the scholars and students. The most current version of each of the 18 courses is freely accessible online on TruthUnity. Downloadable PDF files for self printing is also provided. At some point the entire collection of 18 lessons, annotations, commentary and footnotes will be printed in a single, printed volume.

Third, Fillmore Wings is an online study program in development. Our scholars will eventually offer distance-learning based on our present-day understanding of the original course content. We do not anticipate offering any credit, certification or credentialing, but we will proclaim that students who complete the learning program will have earned the designation "Fillmore Wings."



FILLMORE WINGS STUDY PROGRAM

<https://www.truthunity.net/wings>