

**Love is a ...
Relationships – Part 2
February 14, 2004
Peter Bath**

doing have wandered from the faith. 1
Tim 6:20-21 NIV

- 1) We _____ because _____ first _____ us!
- We love because **he first loved us**. 1 John 4:19 NIV
 - If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. **God is love**. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:14-17 NIV
 - This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10 NIV
 - The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, **abounding in love**. Ps 103:8 NIV
- 2) Love is a _____ not a _____.
- This is love: not that we loved God, but that **he loved us and sent** his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10-11 NIV
 - Greater love has no one than this that he lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 NIV
 - This is how we know what **love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life** for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. 1 John 3:16 NIV
- 3) Love must be _____ and _____.
- **Guard your steps** when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. Eccl 5:1 NIV
 - "So **guard yourself**; always remain loyal to your wife." Mal 2:15-16 NLT
 - "Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Matt 16:6 NIV
 - Timothy, **guard what has been entrusted** to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, which some have professed and in so

- 4) As we mature, our _____ and _____ to love should also mature.
- Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But **solid food is for the mature**, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Heb 5:13-14 NIV
 - I hope all of you who are mature Christians will agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. But **we must be sure to obey the truth we have learned** already. Phil 3:15-16 NLT
 - No, dear brothers and sisters, **I am still not all I should be**, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven. Phil 3:13-14 NLT
 - When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, **I put childish ways behind me**. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 1 Cor 13:11-12 NIV
- 5) Every _____ is _____ to Christ!
- After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church- for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery-but I am talking about **Christ and the church**. Eph 5:29-32 NIV
 - Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the **wedding of the Lamb** has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Rev 19:7 NIV
 - Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the **wedding supper of the Lamb!**'" And he added, "These are the true words of God." Rev 19:9 NIV