

# Love God & Love Your Neighbor

The basis for the entire Old Testament - Matthew  
22:37-40

Love is the fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22

God works to perfect love in us through the word -  
2Peter 1:7, 1John 2:5

Therefore we must look to God's word to know love

# Love

- Our image of what love is
- A definition of love
- Examples of love

# Our Image of Love

- Paradigm - our mental image
  - ▼ Example- Boy in hospital sees doctor
- Our paradigm comes from our perspective
  - ▼ Our perspective isn't wrong but it isn't a total perspective
- Our paradigm influences our learning
  - ▼ We need to fight against what we already think
    - We might refer to this as playing the devil's advocate

# A Definition of Love

- Love from Matthew 22:37 - Greek “agapao”  
agapao
  - ▾ verb- meaning action            tense- future
  - ▾ Definition- to seek the good of another or good will toward another
- Greek noun “agape” agape comes from this verb
  - ▾ Noun used in 1Corinthians 13 to define love, but notice definition consists of things we must do
- Love is a present action not a past thing

# Examples of Love

- God's love in giving his Son - 1John 4:9,10
- Christ's love in giving his life - Mark 10:45
- Ruth's devotion to Naomi - Ruth 1:16,17
- Jesus overturns tables and drives away animals and people - Mark 11:15-17
- Society putting to death a murderer - Gen 9:6
  - ▾ How can putting someone to death be loving? - Justice
  - ▾ Those who love God should be just - Micah 6:8
- Delivering someone to Satan - 1Corinthians 5:4,5

Loving behavior isn't what I think or feel but what God commands - 1John 5:3

# Love

- Our image of what love is must be defined by God's word
- A definition of love - Love is a present action not a past thing
- Examples of love - We need to follow the examples we've been given and keep God's commandments