

THE CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING PRESENTS

VIRTUE IN THE
> CHRISTIAN LIFE <

IS **LOVE** REALLY ALL YOU NEED?



2 PETER 1:7

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2023





Centre for
**Christian
Living**

Have you ever wondered whether it might be okay to lie in some circumstances? Have you ever battled with how to use social media well? Or have you ever had no idea what to say to a friend who asks your advice about IVF?

The Centre for Christian Living (CCL) exists to help Christians bring the teaching of the Bible to bear on these sorts of questions and the many other moments of moral decision that we face day by day.

We do this through:

- our four public events each year (like the one you're at tonight);
- the library of audio, video and text resources we're building at **ccl.moore.com.au**;
- our regular "Centre for Christian Living" podcast.

**THE CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING IS AN
ACTIVITY OF MOORE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**



IS LOVE REALLY ALL YOU NEED?

PART 1: IS LOVE REALLY ALL YOU NEED? (Chase Kuhn)

What is love?

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. (1 John 3:16)

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. (1 John 4:9)

Bring me a higher love

In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him. (John 14:20-21)

“But our soul, my brethren, is unlovely by reason of iniquity: by loving God it becomes lovely. What a love must that be that makes the lover beautiful! But God is always lovely, never unlovely, never changeable. Who is always lovely first loved us; and what were we when He loved us but foul and unlovely? But not to leave us foul; no, but to change us, and of unlovely make us lovely. How shall we become lovely? By loving Him who is always lovely. As the love increases in thee, so the loveliness increases: for love is itself the beauty of the soul.” (Augustine, *The Epistle of St John*)

What's love got to do with it?

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:43-48; cf. Luke 6:27-36)

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” (Matthew 22:34-40; cf. Mark 12:28-34)

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

All is full of love

All you need is love

The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. (1 Timothy 1:5)

“Love of God is affirmed in and through our other loves, structuring them and ordering them, so that with each new discovery of good that the world and time lay open to us, the question of the love of God is put again, its sovereignty over other loves reasserted or forgotten. For love of the world and of the God who gives the world occupies our experience not as a settled condition, but as a series of openings and adventures.”

(*Oliver O'Donovan, Self, World, and Time: Ethics as Theology 1*)

“It is sufficient to render love to any created being, virtuous, if it arise from the temper of mind wherein consists a disposition to love God supremely.”
(Jonathan Edwards, *Dissertation Concerning the Nature of True Virtue*)

PART 2: DISCUSSING PRACTICALITIES

PART 3: Q&A

Q&A

To ask a question,

1. Open a web browser on your device and go to sli.do.
2. Enter the event code “brotherlyaffection”.
3. Type your question, add your name (we’d prefer it if you used your real name) and click or tap “Send”.



Time-permitting, we will ask your question on your behalf.

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**SPEAKER:
DAVID VANDRUNEN**



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