

LOVE LIKE THAT 29.11.2020am

Most of what God does is love.

As believers, we have so much to offer – the potential in everyone is enormous. We can be limited by our own thinking of that imposed by society, but it remains that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above and beyond anything we can ask, think, or imagine – through us, Ephesians 3:20-21. Just because someone else could not do it, doesn't mean it can't be done (Bannister, 4m mile – "physically impossible" – record broken 6.5.1954; Jesse Owens, Germany 1936; the synergy of Clydesdales pulling loads). This encouragement is not for nothing but towards the plans and purposes of God for each one.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (The Message):

"Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behaviour from their parents. **Mostly what God does is love you.** Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He did not love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. **Love like that.**"

This is extreme, extravagant – mostly what God does is love. We see the Father, Son and Holy Spirit united in the cause of the Cross to love like. Me, you, the body of Christ (as His hands and feet) – the only thing people know of Jesus is how we conduct ourselves – we are wired, connect to love like that. Ephesians 2:10 – predestined works for us to walk in; what are they? To love like that.

Romans 13:8-10:

"Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You cannot go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, **the sum total is love.**"

God is omnipotent. He is ever present and all knowing. **Potential** is precious – everything God has made, His call – together is empowerment to do (synergy – in all things God working them together). See Genesis 1:11 (NIV). Everything is made/called with the right seed in it. We can know why we're here, Who made us – there is no accident, these are the big questions people ask; everyone has purpose – and nothing changes until we understand that we are created (DNA if you like) with just the right mix to know who I am, where I'm from, where I'm going, why I'm here and what I can do. This may not be everything I want to do – but most surely we are called to 'love like that' – as a believer in Christ, like Father like Son, most of what we do is love. Inside of us is God's answer to the world – God creates living things to produce care, nurture and for purpose (to be and do what we are designed to do) – Christ in us, the hope of glory – the ultimate seed.

There are souls to win, books to write, people to feed, clothe, house; streets to repair, music to write, movies to make, churches to build and plant, businesses to flourish, cities... potential is a

little like blossom – it looks lovely and smells sweet, but for potential to be fully realised, it must hold on; it must allow the Master to flow through to develop the fruit; to love like that.

Ephesians 5:25-33: profound message of love: individually husband and wife but corporately: v2 esp. ***"This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church."***

We are created to love like that; most of what we do is love; creates good stuff; 'dream works when the team works' ... Potential is realised when our part is done. Abraham and Sarah – couldn't have a baby but were promised nations; they did their part – couldn't see it all but fulfilled their potential. Ps 2:8 – 'ask of Me and I will give You the nations' leads through Acts 1-2 – they couldn't win everyone but did their part, which is our part now continuing. Isaiah 54:2 – must stretch the tent pegs of our thinking if it is too small or we have a limited view of God.

He is omnipotent. 'Standing on nothing on the corner of nowhere He created the potential of everything' – that is our God; Father, Son & Holy Spirit, and as Christ is, so are we, in this world. 1 John 4:17.

Isaiah 46:9-11: ***"Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me. ¹⁰ I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.' ¹¹ From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do."*** (Be careful when we go around the mountain of 'did I do all I could?')

John 17 (this is Jesus' prayer). Esp. v20-21 ***"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me."***

Father, may we be one, for humanity's sake. It is still potential! **We have the greatest privilege all time, to facilitate this unity.** The heart of Jesus, the heart of the Father is that not one be lost. 'Loving like that' will accomplish this. John is penning this prayer as he heard Jesus pray it – David's might men heard a whisper that he was thirsty, and they broke through barriers to bring him a drink. Hear this whispered prayer of Jesus– see the commanded blessing inferred strongly – between unity and souls saved. Compare the success, success (potential realised) as men gathered for a greater cause; commanded blessing – life forever more. We each have, and corporately, the most remarkable potential (Eph 2:10) and it will be wrapped in love. Nations to reach, people to care for, streets to take, buildings to restore, suburbs in Geraldton to win. It is a tragedy not knowing why we are here – it is already revealed. Was it Moses' fault the people did not enter the promised land? Was it Joshua and Caleb's fault? Potential in the people, potential in us is enormous – to do immeasurably more; for our children to do immeasurably more to change their part of this world. Don't limit God. We must 'love like that' (Ephesians 5:1-2); mostly what God does is love.

For anyone who does not know God; He wants to reveal things to you; who you are, why you're here, what His purpose is for you and what will be your eternity? He saw you before you were born; he saw you from the Cross; He sees you know, loves you, wants you with Him. If you will receive Him, He will receive you with open arms.