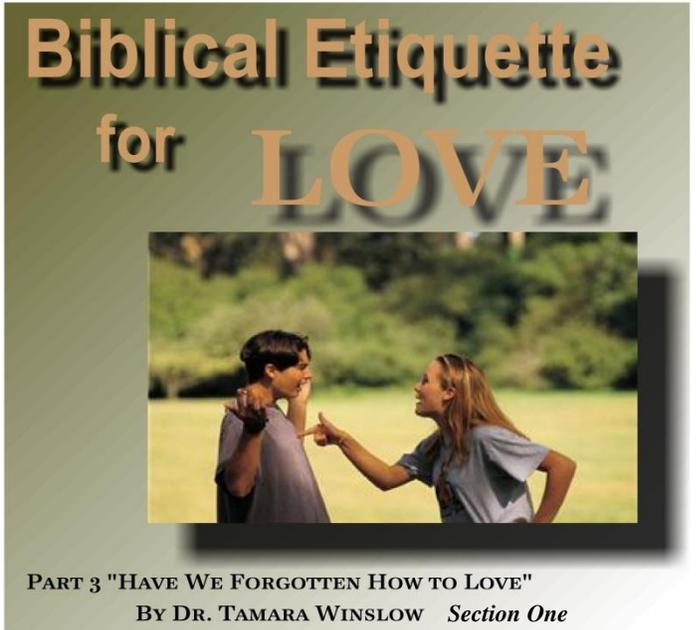




John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. KJV

I've always loved this verse. Personally, it speaks of an ideal that I long for all believers to practice. Yet, in my heart of hearts, I know this isn't how much of the world's population regards the followers of Christ, and it's no wonder. History has miserably demonstrated disgusting repetitive patterns when believers opposed and destroyed each other over everything from biblical doctrinal differences to manners of lifestyle and ministry expression. Nonetheless, as impossible as it seems, I desperately desire and believe that we could witness the fulfillment of what Jesus declared if we're willing to develop a genuinely biblical expression of love. In the first two articles of this series I defined love according to what the Greek and Hebrew concepts for what love is. Then, we examined the different types of wisdom, and corroborating attitudes, necessary to fervently love others without suffering abuse. I highly recommend you review those articles to refresh yourself with the concepts these articles are constructed around. Obviously, the most thorough simplified explanation of how love should operate in is described in 1 Corinthians 13, known as the "Love Chapter". We'll look at those characteristics intermittently throughout this series. Nonetheless, I'd like to have you consider something that I believe has become a foreign, possibly forgotten concept, in much of the Church. There is etiquette in love. Love is not sloppy! In fact, there are specific protocols of behavior and attitude attributed to being genuinely loving revealed throughout the Bible. We just need to discover that etiquette, or the protocols, and then apply them to our lives!

1 Corinthians 13, the famous love chapter, explains the most basic of the protocols of agape, charity, or God's kind of love. What's more, we're re-created to imitate such. Deep in the born-again human heart, the Holy Spirit has poured out God's love. (Rom. 5:6) Consequently, the church of the New Born already possesses the love of God. Regrettably, the well-spring deposit of spiritual "willingness" is seldom tapped, being covered over by the "good feeling lies" and a candy-coated carnality that sorrowfully many in the Church have embraced. When considering the Love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13, we must mull over how Paul was thinking. Contextually, 1 Corinthians 12, 13 and 14 can actually be considered one continuous thought. The idea of true agape



doesn't really begin in 1 Corinthians 13. It actually starts in 1 Corinthians 12.

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. KJV

Difficult as it may be to grasp, Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, opened the section describing love by charging them that they shouldn't be ignorant of that which *pertains to and is of the Spirit*. He wanted them to understand!! What's more, the word "*gifts*" is italicized in many Bible translations, because the word is significantly absent in the authentic Greek manuscripts. Translators added the word "gifts" to make the translation feel more palatable. In doing so, many believers consequently read the verses placing an emphasis on "spiritual gifting" instead of how Paul intended for it to read, as "that which pertains to and of the spirit" as it should be correctly translated. Moreover, the Apostle maintained this train of spiritual thought until chapter 15 where he switched topics addressing the Resurrection followed by a summary of the Gospel message. Isn't it interesting that he sandwiched his teachings on *things which pertain to and of the Spirit (including gifts, manifestations, offices, the significance of the Body of Christ, and the operations of tongues, interpretation of*

tongues & prophecy) with the beautiful balancing chapter on LOVE. Accordingly, love should erupt out of an active *willing* of the human spirit, as differing from the soul that contains the emotions, mind and will. Furthermore, this unity of Spirit and love is consistent with the understanding of agape when he writes about spiritual mindedness in Rom 8, ending that same chapter with the wonderful promise that nothing is able to separate us from the love of Christ. Therefore, if we love in a manner initiated by the Spirit, we must look at the basic protocols of love as unveiled in 1 Corinthians 13.

**Eph 5:1\*** Be ye therefore **followers** of God, as dear children;

**2\*** And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

The highest example of love is God's love! It makes sense, then, that the characteristics described in 1 Corinthians explain how He loves and how He expects us to love. Ephesians 5:1-2 state explicitly that we should follow or *imitate* Him. Consequently, since He is love, we must then imitate that love in practice as well as attitude. He wouldn't ask us to love any differently than what He has exemplified. It may seem like a pretty tall order to fill, but thankfully, He's given us a model and filled us with His Spirit so we can love like He does. Without doubt, we'll make mistakes, and feel like we're fumbling around. But He wouldn't ask us to do something if He hadn't made provision for us. So let's look at some of the protocols Paul described in this famous chapter.



**1 Corinthians 13:1** Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.**2** And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.**3** And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.**4** Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,**5** Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;**6** Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;**7** Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.**8** Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.**9** For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.KJV

Paul begins 1 Corinthians 13 with the statements that no matter how gifted you are, regardless of how much you prophesy, or even if you possess tremendous knowledge, or faith, and you practice extreme generosity, or even sacrifice your life to be burned, if don't have love, you're without value! He goes on to describe how love should act and feel with specific instructions. Let's take a look at these now in connection with related biblical principles!

## **PROTOCOL NUMBER ONE! PATIENT & KIND (HELFPUL)**

Charity, also identified as agape love, suffers long and is kind. It shouldn't surprise us that the Paul linked patience and kindness together when describing love. And as it is first in the sequence

of characteristics, patience should be the opening quality evidenced in the love life of the saint. The Greek word, Makrothumeo, from what's translated as "suffers long" applies in relationships and all sorts of interaction. One of love's first manifestations, therefore, involves the exercise of patient understanding as opposed to hasty anger or hopeless exasperation with people. Moreover, there is also a sense of mercy attached to this expression.

**Ps 103:13** Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. **14** For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. **15** As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. KJV

As previously mentioned, God illustrates how to love. His long suffering nature is additionally described in Luke 18:7, James 5:7-8 and 2 Peter 3:9. We need to imitate this example. Because He is lovingly patient He restrains deserved judgments and gives humanity a chance to change! If we're to love like He loves we must become people who give the second, third, fourth and fifth chance, or as long as the Spirit within is convicts us to. Saying that, there is a time to let consequences come and take their course. Sometimes it's difficult to know when that time is, but hopefully, as we look at all angles of this spiritual etiquette, we'll learn to discern and act as is necessary, all the while with an ache in our hearts that things could have been different had things changed. The patient love that God expresses also surprisingly reveals that He takes a risk every time He's patient! You see, because His mercy performs as the principal monitor for

His judgment, we need to learn that because He knows our fleshly frailty He realizes we will make mistakes. But even when He knows our potential for blunders, He also remembers that He made us in His image, and there is a largely untapped potential for wonders inside every person. Therefore, He recognizes that every life has the potential to change and His patient love is ever hoping those changes will occur.

**1 Thessalonians 5:14** Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. KJV

What would happen if every believer saw through similar eyes? The protocol of love requires this type of patient forbearance, motivated by mercy, and accompanied by the recognition of the potential for change! People can change! Furthermore, this patient love isn't to be exclusively exhibited toward believers. Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:14 that we should practice this patience toward every human being. This means you have to learn to see people in the same way God sees them! Obviously this is easy to talk about, but it's not always so simple to apply! Yes it's risky! But remember, God takes a risk with you every day!

It isn't hard to understand why Paul linked patience and kindness together. They fit together like a hand in a glove. One can't effectively work without the other. Significantly, the Greek word translated as "kind", in 1 Corinthians 13, is only used once in the Scriptures. There are, however, several derivatives of the word

that helpfully develop the concept. For that reason, the word needs explanation.

Obviously, God is kind. Accordingly, “kindness”, by definition, refers to showing oneself useful. It is mild, or gentle in behavior, and is additionally derived from a sense of what’s morally appropriate, and therefore, not forceful. Pushy, bossy people, who say that they’re good at loving others need to re-examine their philosophy of how to love.



Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.KJV

2 Samuel 2:6 And now the LORD shew kindness and truth unto you: and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing. KJV

Looking at His heavenly template, God’s kindness to us is multi-faceted, shown through the riches of His grace, but, simply put, is continually granted to us through Jesus! Furthermore, Scripture reveals that His kindness is everlasting, gentle, and tender-hearted. Consequently, He recognizes the authentic needs of those He is kindly-loving toward. This is because His kindness operates through truth! The combination of His character, Word, Spirit, Works, and who Jesus is, gage how kindness should behave.

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; KJV

Seeing as His kindness is one of the chief characteristics of His nature, we’re obligated to imitate it. Accordingly, kindness is a direct expression of the born again life! But, it is also something that must be continually appropriated or “worn”! In Colossians 3:12, Paul said, “Put on!” kindness! He compares kindness to a piece of clothing that you choose from the spiritual wardrobe God blessed you with in the New Birth. Being kind, therefore, is a choice, and you can’t operate in it outside of the indwelling of His Spirit enabling you. Kindness also implies you endeavor to be the most useful and helpful without being forceful. This means you have to learn to determine genuine need versus supposed need!

Some time ago I overheard a little boy tearfully begging his mother for something he thought he REALLY needed. When she refused, the child began to scream crying, "You don't love me anymore. I NEED that!" I mused thinking how often we behave like that toddler. If we don't get what we think we really need we don't "feel" loved. This brings us back to the problem with the bogus idea that love is exclusively a feeling. Scripture doesn't deny that love is often an expression of emotion, but love mustn't be limited to passion alone. Bible scholars agree that agape, or God's kind of love, originates with the will, and then sometimes shapes the affections: But not always! Therefore, until “need” is

clearly defined, we flounder aimlessly in our attempts to love, missing the Spirit-led target of need, and then, even sometimes, unwittingly offending the ones we try to love. Let’s take a look at the dictionary definition for need!

1. That which is necessary, a duty, an obligation.
2. The lack of something requisite, desirable, or useful
3. The physiological or psychological requirement for the well-being of an organism
4. The condition requiring supply or relief
5. The lack of the means of subsistence

## 6. POVERTY in any area of life!

Obviously, the idea of “need” means different things to people. What is one person’s “poverty” is another’s contentment. Have you considered that? If you haven’t, you’ll find helpfully loving people very difficult, and even at times, awkward. Love recognizes genuine need because God, by His Spirit, reveals it to those who seek His ways! Sadly, we often miss the mark simply because we’ve been blind to the actual root needs of the people around us. Regrettably, sometimes in our good intentions to help others, we actually overstep their boundaries and damage them by our well-meaning, but insensitively applied, actions or untimely spoken words. Furthermore, human, *fallen* nature is almost always selfish. Carnal, immature believers are more concerned about getting their personal needs met, while at the same time, being ignorant of the root needs of the people in their lives. I say “root needs” because too often we connect with people based on how we interpret their obvious external indicators of need, or how we judge them through our individual perspectives of what they look like or how they act. We’re deplorably ignorant to the foundational issues. It takes the revelation of the Holy Spirit and serious heartfelt prayer to gain the wisdom necessary to really help people. The beloved apostle John explained that genuine loving fellowship emerges only after we achieve *light*, or revelation from God, that results in healthy fellowship. Consequently, if you’re seeking His will, and walk in His light, or maybe it makes more sense to say, according to the understanding He gives you, He’ll show you what’s needed with the people you encounter. He will also reveal what’s going on in their lives, if you’re open to that, so that you can be patient, gentle and of assistance to them. You can’t genuinely practice the kind of love described in 1 Corinthians 13 unless you’ve gained this kind of revelation from God. As you grow in this, you’ll also need to identify the boundaries or authority you actually possess with that person, and hopefully you’ll respect them enough to meet them in the way that is most caring for them. In addition to this, practically speaking, God will begin to make known to you what His expectations are for that relationship and, consequently, show you what your expectations should be of those people, according to His desire and plan. When you exceed those and mix your natural desires into the

plan, trouble always results. Love is kind, but it isn't selfishly willful. Please, please pay attention to this! You'll avert great hurt to yourself and others if you allow God's expectations to be yours. This means that you absolutely must sort out which expectations should and shouldn't be acknowledged!

Acts 12:11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.KJV

A wrong expectation can be the most volatile factor in how we give and receive love. It can either release you or imprison you. Acts 12:1-11 shares the story of an imprisoned apostle Peter.

Verse eleven reveals that Peter realized he'd been imprisoned by the expectation of the people, and accordingly, Herod cooperated. Satan loves to take advantage of ungodly expectations and jail people, keeping them from their destinies. People with unhealthy expectations project needy demands that corrupt love on all levels. Sometimes, they aren't even aware that they're sending off such unhealthy vibes. Remembering this, you must be

extremely discerning and your reactions need to be tightly reined in. Generally speaking, needy people have a mixed bag of expectations projected toward God, others, you, and especially, those who they presuppose could meet their needs! In the end, the only one who can really meet the needs is God. He is our ultimate source of provision, even though in most situations, He uses people as His conduit of blessing. What's more, healthy expectations support and release you to do what's best and according to the will of the Lord. Wrong expectations transmit a jumble of unhealthy feelings and selfish desires because they're blinded by presumptuousness. I've observed that individuals driven by wrong hope frequently turn out to be co-dependent in behavior. Ungodly expectations are also often fostered out of an unhealthy familiarity that results in a casual, generally undiscerned disrespect that inevitably takes advantage of the people who love and want to help them. You can't effectively love someone who has come to feel they have the right to "use" you to fulfill their perceived needs or purposes. Love doesn't help others because they demand or expect it. Love gives because God has revealed a need and you've chosen to cooperate with His kind plan. Therefore, ask yourself these questions. Are the

**THE DIFFERENT  
TYPES OF RELATIONSHIP  
RADICALLY AFFECT HOW  
WE ARE HELPFUL IN LOVE**

- 1. Family**
- 2. Spiritual family**
- 3. Friends**
- 4. Work-related relationships**
- 5. People in Genuine need**
- 6. Strangers**
- 7. Enemies**
- 8. Neighbors**
- 9. People demanding to be your friend, especially when there is an incompatibility of personality or a problem with co-dependence. "Parasitical" relationships**
- 10. "3<sup>rd</sup>" Party influences**

relationships you possess "need-based" or "love-based"? Need-based relationships always become one-way streets with an inevitable dead end hiding somewhere off in the future. Relationships that are built around neediness, crisis, offense, and mutual personality inadequacies are rarely healthy. The idea that we have to have people need us is very unstable and repeatedly perpetuated by the messages communicated through popular movies and music that ignores what makes healthy love and interaction. Many a marriage has crashed miserably because the couple expected that they'd meet each other's needs. Then, if one of them failed to do so, the other felt let down or disappointed. The only one who can meet all of our needs is Jesus.

The healthy union between a man and woman was originated based on covenant. Sadly, I would suspect that a great number of separations and divorces today are because someone in that marriage felt unloved because the expected needs were not satisfied.

Another thing we have to consider when learning to helpfully and gently love someone is that as a relationship develops, so will the expectations. We need to take notice of this because expectations change and flesh out as a relationship matures. Therefore, a patient, kind and unforced love is constantly conscious and respectful of someone's boundaries. The moment we fall short in discerning another person's boundaries is the instant we abandon the caring love God expects. The cross must always be central in every relationship. Therefore, if you believe you possess revelation from God, concerning a specific relationship, and the person you're relating to doesn't expect the same, the dealings can get very frustrating, especially if a detrimental familiarity has come into play. In such instances you must be patient. You may

have gotten it wrong, or they may not have the heard from God yet. What's more they may never get it. We walk with one another according to the likeminded "light" we share from God. Sometimes, you'll have to step back and release the situation to the Lord for His timing, revelation and patience. Your help may not be what they want. Or maybe your timing is off? Always keep a loose hold on the people God has placed in your path. Allow the Lord to work! Helpfulness in love is always patient. If you feel driven, lay it down. Pushy helpfulness can be very controlling and selfish.

**The intensity and the degrees of the expressions of benevolent love you demonstrate will differ be determined by several factors.**

**#1. TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP**

The type of relationship you have must always be considered in how you love. For example, how you relate to and love your flesh and blood family will be very different from how you love and help your enemies. In fact, loving family with spiritual discernment and consideration can be painful and very complicated. Expectations, judgments, poor communication, years of accumulated unre-

solved issues and culture radically affect this. Time builds up lots of unspoken and often unidentified expectations in family! As a result, there isn't a formula or single answer I can offer you if you're going through difficulty in loving and helping family. Patience and good self-controlled communication is always helpful. Moreover, spiritual family can be just as challenging because if you don't give them what they think you ought to, they may accuse you of not being Christian. Yeeessshhhh! Give me a break! It might be helpful to you to make a list of all your relationships and then categorize them according to type. Then you can seek God for His perspective and pray accordingly. We have relationships with friends, and even then, there are different levels of "intimacy". They may have even been close once long ago, but things have changed. Keep the cross in the midst of the friendship. Sometimes we outgrow our friendships and have to move on without them. That is really hard for everyone involved because no matter how hard you try and want to explain it, they won't understand what you're saying, and you may hurt them deeply. I wish there was an easy solution to this, but just as Jesus meets us where we're at, and isn't condescending or patronizing, we must learn to follow His example.

I currently have a very dear friend, a pre-saved neighbor, who at this time in her life is dealing with some serious issues. I'm trying to be there for her, even though I know she doesn't expect it from me. I pray for her, and we relate as best as we can. Thankfully, we have a lot of things in common and love to laugh together. Nonetheless, how I relate to her is poles apart from how I relate to my students, family or Christian friends. Even so, how else will she see Jesus if I don't care about her? She has a very low opinion of Christians because she's had some very bad, from my point of view, horrifying experiences. But I think she's getting a different picture of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. So we are friends. I try to give her what the Lord shows me she currently needs. It's a challenge, but not something I regret! She's my friend and I care about her in all areas of her life. Didn't Jesus hang out with the tax collectors, considered to be some of the most despicable scum of that time's society? He made a difference in their lives because He loved them. I want to do the same. Take a look at the list I've posted in the box of the types of relationships you deal with. I think you'll notice it's quite diverse! Furthermore, I want to specifically mention two types of relationships that have been on the increase in society, probably more now than at any other time, from what I've observed. These two types of relationships would be "Co-dependent relationships" and "Parasitical Relationships". I find these types of situations very awkward and unpredictable, and at times these two types overlap in practice. As far as I'm concerned, and from what I've determined to be biblically sound, friendships need to be mutual and consensual. That is not, however, how some relationships turn out. Let me explain.

There is an increasingly disturbing problem in both society and the Church concerning individual possessiveness where people demonstrate ungodly control in their relationships. I don't know

how many times I've had to counsel folks who felt like they needed to escape someone who'd begun to claim them as they're best friend when the feeling wasn't mutual. They felt dominated, bossed, controlled and owned by the other person who made it difficult for anyone else to enter into a healthy relationship with them, because they'd announce that this person was their BEST friend. These parasitical relationships often reveal co-dependence leaching the strength of life right out of you, and what's worse; they believe they have the right to do so. Parasitic individuals don't regard any manner of boundaries and inevitably become very controlling of everything about the person they attach themselves to. Sometimes such relationships can be salvaged through gentle, but firm confrontation, but more often than not, they can't. This behavior is incredibly immature and reminds me of pre-teen relationships in "Jr. High School". Moreover, it's especially nauseating when adult women act this way, becoming un-righteously co-dependent and steam rolling toward various immoral behaviors. In such cases, these one-way street associations aren't centered on God's loving patience and result in emotional catastrophe. Remember this! Anytime someone demands that you be their friend and insists that you have to yield to their expectations, do this! RUN AWAY! Fast!! God isn't in this type of bond, and no matter how you try to deal with it, love always ends up being compromised in order to keep a pseudo and unproductive peace!

## #2. LENGTH OF RELATIONSHIP

The second factor that influences how far you go in helpfully loving someone is the length of relationship you've had with them. Now obviously, your length of relationship with a stranger will be entirely different than someone you work with. And the parameters for how you help them will be different. You must be Spirit led in every instance.

## #3. HOW THE RELATIONSHIP ORIGINATED

How did the relationship come about? This might surprise you but how a relationship originated will radically determine the boundaries, expectations and responsibility you have with a person. Here are some thoughtful questions you need to consider.

- Did "something or someone" throw you together? Was it a crisis? Was there a common activity? Were you both mutually offended about something?
- Was there a 3<sup>rd</sup> party involved in starting the relationship? This can be one of the most difficult of types of relationships that I know of, especially if the person being introduced to you expects you to relate to them on the same immediate intimate depth as the introducing party. It can be extremely awkward because if you try to slow things down in order to develop the relationship properly, you'll at some time have to deal with the presumptuous expectations. There is very little you can do when someone expects you to give them what they want based on how you related to the introducing party. Just do your best to be kind, but be wise. These 3<sup>rd</sup> party relationships inevitably take a lot of time to develop

because until the premature expectations are laid on the Cross, there will always be disappointments and frustration. Forced interaction because of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party trying to create it generally goes through several painful stages involving a lot of readjustment. Moreover, if you don't feel compatible with the newly added link, all 3 relationships will come into conflict. Therefore, take a serious look at the foundations of your relationship! How you love and help is radically affected by this.

#### #4. DEALING WITH STRANGERS AND SUDDEN IMPACT!

On occasion there are unique factors affecting how you help people that come into your path. Let me give you an example.

A number of years ago, I was a guest speaker for a large conference. The main conference meeting was going on, and the leader of the convention had asked me to quickly go mediate a crisis between 3 sets of ministry leaders. It was an urgent predicament and a conflict that required immediate resolution. So I had to hurry toward the room where they were meeting. My heart was understandably intensely fixed as I rapidly walked and prayed through the large conference hall to the backstage room. I didn't even see her coming, but a middle aged woman abruptly stepped into the middle of the aisle preventing me from walking and threw her body against mine, forcefully embracing me, while at the same time squeezing me and jumping up and down. I was so shocked at this stranger's behavior and repulsed by her lawless disregard for anyone but herself, that I hardly knew how to respond. Then she started ranting, "I just took you're anointing. I just got your anointing!" Emotions set aside, I was still irritated. Her selfish obnoxious behavior was delaying what I needed to be focused on. She honestly believed that by grabbing me she could take what she wanted from me. I broke her grip and said, "No! You didn't get anything! You don't steal anointing! It doesn't belong to you anyway." I then ran to the meeting room where God moved and the conflict was resolved. It was not unloving for me to refuse and resist her. Don't be ridiculous! God's love is not ooey-goeey. It is patient and helpful, but it's always done with wisdom and considerate boundaries!

I find that people who disregard God's protocols of love may act like vultures waiting for you to demonstrate signs of vulnerability so they can take what they want from you without conviction, responsibility and accountability. This is why you must use wisdom. You need to discern when to give and when to withhold. It used to be that after I ministered in a service, I would feel extremely vulnerable. Understandably, I was tired after having expended a lot of oomph, and all too frequently, the most awkward situations would occur. Thankfully, I've learned how to manage these issues, but nonetheless, it's not something people would expect to happen to a speaker. For example, I've lost track of the times when all types of individuals would come up to me and say "I just want to touch you. Let me hold your hand". In some of those situations, I found out later that, these strangers were actually practicing witches who wanted to curse me when I was weary and my boundaries were down. Yes, these kinds of people

do exist! Happily, in most cases, they weren't of that persuasion, but instead were people with real needs. I don't mind helping people who really need help and are sincerely seeking God. Nonetheless, there have been numerous instances when I've had to be extremely sensitive. Furthermore, most of the time, the risky people didn't latch onto me, and the personal assistant, standing alongside of me discerned the matter, and prevented it. On the other hand, there've been times when people needed contact and I would do what the Lord led me to do for that moment. Just remember! God's manner of love is never demanded or coerced! So to help people you need to listen to the Lord constantly!

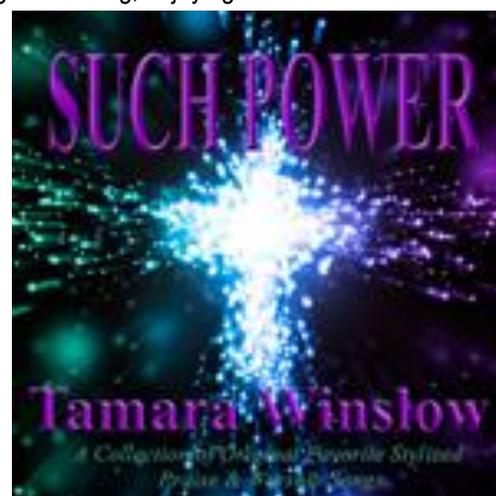
I hope this is helping you see how love should behave. We need to be patient. We need to be gentle, kind and helpful. But let's not be stupid and forget to consider God's manner in dealing with people. In the next article we'll examine more of these protocols for love. Practice being patient and kind! Imitate your King!

## SUCH POWER

In 1991 my husband and I were on our way to an evening dinner party. Mike had turned on the radio to listen to the local Christian station that was playing the old hymn "Crown Him With Many Crowns". Listening to the song, enjoying the wonderful orchestral

and choral arrangement, I wasn't prepared for what was about happen. I remember quite clearly that I felt hungry, at the same time thinking about how grateful I would be to get to the dinner.

The next thing I knew, I suddenly found myself transported, and standing in a massive wall-less pavilion, brimming with an innumerable crowd of people. Only moments before I was sitting in the van, and the next I was caught up into this vision. It totally took me off guard, so that I was momentarily stunned. I tried to assess where I was, what had happened, and who the people standing around me were. Looking toward what appeared to be the back of the multitude, I could barely make out the figures because it looked like a blur of humanity, going on and on. I simply didn't know where I was, and wasn't prepared for what was about to take place. Scanning the crowd, I observed a smoke hovering over them, fading in and around the people. Then, as if on some unspoken cue, a sound began to progressively move forward from the back of the mass, at first indistinguishable in word or melody, and sounding like a



surge of ocean waves rolling in toward the shore eventually crashing on the sand. Gradually, I picked out the words to the simple, beautiful and uniquely unified melody. "Worthy is the Lamb. Worthy is the Lamb. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain." All of a sudden I knew, without a shadow of a doubt where I was.

But more importantly, I knew when it was. For some un-known reason, God was allowing me the privilege of hearing and witnessing the first moments when every person who'd ever come to call Jesus Lord and Savior, stood before the throne. For the first time I listened as believers sang with one heart and one song together. I believe I witnessed that prophetic moment when the Family of God worshipped Him as one. It's virtually impossible to describe that experience. I've also

never heard anything entirely like it in this earth, as of yet. The singing was pure, simply and entirely pure. There was no selfish ambitious competitiveness in the sound, nor did any excesses of flesh or soul pollute it. In addition to this, everyone sang with total abandon, and yet, they sang in absolute unity, completely aware of the fact that they were with family. Furthermore, the reason it

was so difficult to discern the words of the song in the beginning was because every person was worshipping in their own language. If you listened carefully you

could have heard Swedish, German, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and any language that has existed in human expression, all praising God. But the odd thing was that in spite of the fact that there was individual expression, there was also perfect unity. I've never heard anything like it before. It was absolutely stunning. As I listened to the sound I also became extremely aware that at any point God could pick out one person's voice and listen to that single expression of praise. He knew each one as if they stood there alone. It's impossible to convey what I felt in the fullness of that atmosphere. Curious, I did something that I later regretted. I turned to see who was standing to my left, which took my focus off of the Lord, and the next thing I knew, I was back sitting in our van, looking at my handsome husband. Shaken, I sat there silent; upset I may have missed something, when I perceived the voice of the Lord speak. He said, "I want you to help prepare my people for this moment.



Eric Uglum, owner, engineer, producer and fantastic musician with Dr. Tamara Winslow

Teach them how to praise and worship Me in this fashion". The visitation ended.

I've pondered this vision for many years, and to the best of my ability have attempted to teach what He asked me to. Nonetheless, I have the sense that this aspect of the ministry I'm called to is about to gear up. Let me explain.

This past December through April of last year I was privileged to record my first CD in 5 years. It was a tremendous healing experience for me. Healing, in that unbeknownst to most people, and for too many reasons to name, I'd pretty much thrown in the towel concerning the musical expression of my ministry. Hence, the "Out from the Wilderness into the Glory" CD was a literal statement of my heart. Even after the recording of that

CD, and its production, I've felt a somewhat defeated sense of purpose, because we haven't sold very many. So the CD has been essentially just sitting on www.CDBaby.com, iTunes and in my ministry CD inventory storage. Consequently, doing another CD was not in the forefront of my thinking. Then, in mid July, I found my heart being cautiously stirred to consider recording another CD that would showcase a collection of my original praise and worship songs. These selections were ones that I knew people had come to love and request throughout my over 30 years of my ministry in music. Further complicating the project, my husband was about to lose his job. So with no certainty of income, since we've paid for previous recordings out of our own pocket, the idea of doing another CD made no sense. Yet, the leading was very clear. After praying about the direction, I discussed it with my husband. He wrestled with the whole idea because we didn't know how we'd pay for it, along with our regular bills. Nonetheless, out of obedience, I scheduled the recording sessions. I was very apprehensive! Then, late one night, I prayed

a desperate prayer for direction. The next morning I awoke with the strong impression that I needed to write and



The amazing drummer Roger Gilliespie and Dr. Tamara Winslow

send out a fund raising letter to a select group of people, all the while honestly not knowing to expect. I want you to understand that I

can count on a few fingers how many times I've written fund raising letters, and in nearly every case, only a few very small gifts came in. So I didn't have great hope. Consequently, I was shocked when in a very short time the finances for the venture began to roll in, and we had what we would need to do the recording.

Praise God!

Today, as I sit here, listening to the bass parts being recorded at the New Wine Recording Studio in Apple Valley, California, owned and operated by Eric Uglum,

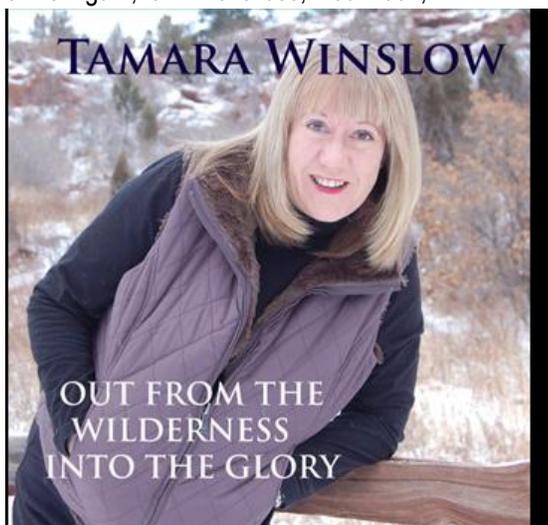


Two of the gifted singers from the Revived Choir

I'm very aware that for some unknown reason God really wants this CD to come out. Thinking back, I can't help but wonder if the command He gave me in 1991 is directly connected to this recording.

In short, the release of this upcoming miraculous CD may be an indicator that I'll be focusing more on the subject of praise and worship than I have in recent years. One of the songs entitled "Listen Now" is new for this project. About 6 years ago the Lord spoke to my heart that I'd be granted a number of hymns directly from His heart for throne room worship. I believe this new hymn is one of those. The others have been stylistically arranged to freshen them up for people who are familiar with them. The 14 songs included are as follows. Above & Not Beneath; Such Power; My God Is Faithful; Hem Of Your Garment; I Believe in the Anointing in You; Revive Me Again; On The Cross; You Took; I

Choose to Love the Truth; Pour Out Your Glory, Dancing King; Salvation Belongs to Me; Let Us Exalt; & Listen Now. I had the privilege of once again working with a fantastic team of gifted musicians: Eric Uglum, Christian Ward, Austin Ward, Roger Gilliespie, Edwin Uglum, Maurice Oliva II; the ladies of the "Revived"



Choir (Bridgette Greathouse Wynn, Carolyn Miller Barnett, Angela Simone Wynn, Donna Roberts); Maurice Sklar, and Erin Joy Felts.

For those of you who might be interested in acquiring this new CD it can be ordered from my website [www.tamarawinslow.com](http://www.tamarawinslow.com). The earlier CD, "OUT FROM THE WILDERNESS INTO THE GLORY", can be ordered off the website or downloaded from [www.CDBaby.com](http://www.CDBaby.com) or other online music internet sites. I believe these CD's have some special and anointed pieces on them and will touch your heart.

## NEW MINISTRY EXPRESSIONS

After much prayer, Dr. Winslow has launched her new blog entitled **Truth That Works**. She will be posting her writings about various biblical topics 3-5 times per week. Currently, she's writing about Truth from a Kingdom perspective. Interest has been thus far stirring with followers reading posts from over 15 different countries including Madagascar, Philippines, Singapore, Russia, the US, Canada, the UK, Finland, Germany, France, New Zealand, Australia and more. Check out what she is teaching, and if you enjoy it, let her know you like it by designating yourself as a blog follower! She has plans to write about a variety of topics some of which will include The Mystery of Lawlessness, Grace, Faith, and Christian Life skills! You can read her blog at [www.truththatworks.blogspot.com](http://www.truththatworks.blogspot.com). Hope to find you there!

## Upcoming PROJECTS & PROJECTS in Progress

### Video Recording of the song "IT DOESN'T MATTER"

Composed five years ago & recorded this past year on the "Out From The Wilderness Into The Glory" CD this tender, powerful song has a message relevant to the stormy times. People need to hear the message of these lyrics. Plans are being made to do a Hi Def professional video of this song to post on YouTube. The estimated cost for this pro-

duction is about \$1200. Please be praying for the release of the funding and the timing so that Dr. Winslow can release this song!

## ***UPCOMING EBooks TO BE RELEASED!***

Dr. Winslow is currently working on several new books and new editions of books to be made available as Ebooks. She plans on re-releasing "The Song of the Lord" in a newly, updated edition originally published in England. In addition to that, she's editing The Praise and Worship Compendium: Volume One, and several other major works for Ebook publication. Please be praying for these as she endeavors to complete them.



## **The TIME MACHINE Seminars**

What would it be like to go back in time and experience a style of ministry similar to the early Church that was intent on deep personal impact, allowed for genuine encounters with God's presence and glory, provided safe conditions for healthy responsible relationships, emphasized prayer sessions that were life-changing and opened the doors for God's plan, served good food, ministered teaching that wasn't dominated by technology and had teachers who didn't experiment with the gifts of the Spirit

so that you had genuine fruit? That is what the upcoming TIME MACHINE seminars conducted by Dr. Tamara Winslow will offer. If you are interested please contact her at [ifbtruth@gmail.com](mailto:ifbtruth@gmail.com) or check out her website for more information coming soon.

**Some of the Seminar Topics will be: PRAISE & WORSHIP; UNDERSTANDING THE 5 FOLD MINISTRY; BASIC DOCTRINES & much more.**

### **THE VISION DEMANDS EXPANSION & RELOCATION**

Over the course of the past few years God has been making it very obvious that it would be increasingly difficult to conduct the Institute 3.5 week courses & the 5-10 day seminars in our current building situations. The ministry houses Cornelius House 1 & 2 have provided classroom & lodging space for the students & staff, but they no longer afford us with the needed amount of space for cooking, eating, lodging & privacy. Furthermore, we've been sensing a move was imminent & began praying about & considering other regions of the USA where we could relocate, as well as also hopefully be closer to family. We're presently considering several options for this repositioning. A lot of issues have to be taken into account for this to happen. If we were to move to one of the areas we've considered, we've already found a house & small piece of land that would work for the schools as well as some other things on our hearts. We've prospectively found a property that meets a lot of the requirements we need to establish the first part of the work. In short, it's a relatively new 6 bedroom house with 6000+ sq.ft of space on 1.5 acres of land outside the city limits. The kitchen is perfect for the size of group we feed during courses & there's a huge paved area for parking. It has a 3 car attached garage & an additional detached 2 car finished garage that could work for offices. There is also 10 acres across the road for sale that could be used for future building expansion. We could probably acquire the house for \$300,000 adding another \$50,000 for additional bedrooms & work to make it perfect for the courses. Once those things were completed it would comfortably sleep 20-25 people. The acreage across the road is listed at \$49,000. We're still waiting for clearance from the Lord to take the next steps. Obviously, we'd sell the two houses in Colorado Springs so this will take some time to do and of course, it all costs. Because of the nature of the vision for the schools internet seminars will not work. So that is out of the question. I also looked at the possibility of renting facilities near Colorado Springs, in a 150 mile radius, but the cost for doing so would be unreachable for many of the students who want to attend, not excluding the fact that the atmosphere, food, privacy & space isn't compatible. Please will you pray with us as we seek the Lord for the next stages in what to do. Your support & prayers is deeply appreciated. The Body of Christ needs each other to accomplish His plan together! Thank you for your help to make this happen.