

SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

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WHY IS LOVE SO IMPORTANT?

I read about a survey that took place several years ago. A group of professionals posed this question to a group of four through eight-year-olds, "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. See what you think:

"Love is that first feeling you feel before all the bad stuff gets in the way."

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You know that your name is safe in their mouth."

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other."

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."

"Love is when someone hurts you and you get so mad but you don't yell at them because you know it would hurt their feelings."

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired."

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK."

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My mommy and daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss."

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate."

"Love is hugging. Love is kissing. Love is saying no."

"When you tell someone something bad about yourself and you're scared they won't love you anymore. But then you get surprised because not only do they still love you, they love you even more."

"There are two kinds of love Our love. God's love. But God makes both kinds of them."

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday."

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well."

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore."

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."

"Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken."

"Love is when mommy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford."

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones."

"I let my big sister pick on me because Mom says she only picks on me because she loves me. So I pick on my baby sister because I love her."

"Love cards like Valentine's cards say stuff on them that we'd like to say ourselves, but we wouldn't be caught dead saying."

"Love is when mommy sees daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross."

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."

To be honest, these are sweet thoughts, but all of these definitions do not give justice to the truth about love. Love is seen at the cross (John 3:16). God could have said magic words to make the nails fall off the cross, but He didn't. Love is painful. Love is hard. And God loves you more than you can imagine! With those thoughts in mind, remember that this Sunday is Valentine's Day. I know that it is not a religious holiday, and is secularized to make money on cards and candy, but it is a reminder to love people. Do you show love to people? This is your wake up call!

We need to look to God who not only defines love, but embodies it. Let this article be a challenge for you to love people the way God loves us. Show people forgiveness. Be an encourager. Practice kindness. Be more like Jesus. Have a great week!

*You are loved,
Ray*

SYG NEWS & EVENTS



We offer two opportunities for our children during the week for Bible study. On Sunday mornings we meet on the front pew for a "Pew Packers" style class before worship. SONSHINE STUDIES will have singing, Bible reading, and an object lesson for pre-K to 5th grade. We also have Wednesday night Bible classes for all ages! The teenagers will be studying the L2L material to prepare for the 2021 convention in Orlando, FL. Please bring your children and teens to Bible study and worship.



Teenagers, next Sunday, February 21, we will be leaving immediately after morning services for a youth trip. We will make a quick stop at Buc-ee's, eat lunch in Pensacola, and then attend the Ice Flyers hockey game at 4:00 PM. Please let Ray know by Wednesday the 17th if you will be attending.

We always have fun on our Youth & Young Adult Game Night. We usually have these events in the fellowship hall on the last Friday of the month. However, this month we are considering moving it to the last Sunday afternoon/night, which will be February 28th. See Ray or Misty to give your suggestions.



We need to start getting prepared for the convention in Orlando - April 1-4. If you want to participate as a student, a coach, a judge, a donor or in any other way, please see Ray ASAP. The deadline for registration of events will be then end of February.

We are VERY excited about participating this year at convention!

We've got questions. You've got answers. Don't throw us shade. It's time to spill the tea. This is an interview with one of our teens in a series of random questions. We call it "7 Groovy Questions." You can find it on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube. The next video will be with Chase Joiner.



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