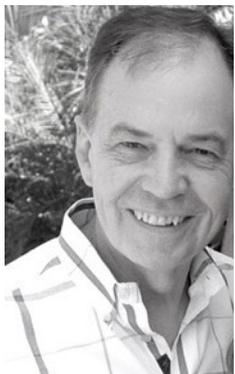




WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW IS LOVE

cn
CHURCH OF THE NATIONS



FROM
DAVID'S
HEART
TO
YOURS

It was a cold chilly February morning in Washington DC. As we all gathered expectantly, our host uttered these words " This is my brother Louie, whom I love. I may not always agree with him but he is my brother in Christ and I love him. I know his wife by name, also his children and we pray for each others family's each week."

Our host was Californian congresswoman Janice Hahn, a Democrat and Louie, who she had been introducing was Louie Gohmert, a Republican member of the US congress, from Texas. The event was the National Presidential Prayer Breakfast, which my wife Carol and I were privileged to attend.

The thing that struck Carol and I as we listened was the genuine honesty and sincere tone and respect these two had for one another. They went on to explain how they had learnt to 'disagree without being disagreeable'. How refreshing it was to hear this kind of interaction.

This, in sharp contrast to where the world finds itself at this point in time. As I reflected I couldn't help but recall the words penned by Burt Bacharach and his friend Hal David all those years

ago, and how prophetic those words would be for this hour...."WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW, IS LOVE SWEET LOVEit's the only thing that there's just too little of." Those words struck a chord, and history shows that over time the song has been recorded by over 100 of the top artists in the world.

In the same way I believe we God's people, the body of Christ need to voice the same sentiments today. When it comes to mutual respect and common decency, society has lost its way. Trash talk and one-upmanship in order to put the other person down has become the order of the day. There is so much hatred and venom being spewed, yet hate begets hate, whilst 'Love multiplies Love.'

I find it amazing that those who accuse others of being hateful, deliver their message with such hateful rhetoric and speech, that it neutralizes their message. The word tells us that; 'Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins.' (Pro 10:12). Even hate speech is now quantified through the filter of ones own world view, or the position of our convenient philosophies or belief systems, not God's word.

In the midst of all this clamor we too have lost respect for anointing, office and mantle, whether it be in the spiritual or secular realm. Sure, we are all created equal in value and worth, but we are all clearly assigned different functions, offices and gifting. That is simply how God designed society to be, and when those things begin to erode, so does society.

In contrast the peace of the word encourages us to... "Let no unwholesome (coarse) word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.. Eph 4: 29.

Jesus when confronted by hate in the garden, when Malchus' ear was dismembered by a sword, reached out with healing. When others reach for their 'swords' no matter what form those sword may come in, we need to do what Jesus did, and reach for a towel, bowl and water.

I recently heard a young pastor friend of mine say; "People only believe we love them, when we live it and show them."

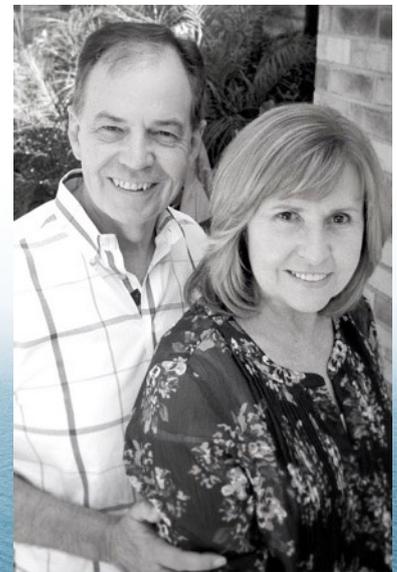
I believe the Lord is calling us to become beacons of hope and to begin to love and restore the simple habitude of mutual respect and common courtesy. The world certainly doesn't seem to know how to respond, yet we have the blue print clearly laid out for us in His word. The apostle Paul said; "The Love of Christ controls us." (2 Cor 5:14). So let us allow His love to captivate our thoughts, speech and actions, so that our Kingdom influence and presence in responding with love will once again begin to permeate society.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

In conclusion.....Practice LOVE, See LOVE, Dispense LOVE and Be LOVE.

May the LOVE of Christ control you!

David



DAVID & CAROL CAPE

The Love of Christ controls us!

An impact thought as a foot note to Dave's excellent article.

Paul said at the end of what is known as the love chapter, 1Corinthians 13 "These three remain, Faith, Hope and Love, but the greatest of these is Love".

WHY?

Two of God's attributes are Faith and Hope but God is LOVE

REMEMBER

Vision is conceived through Hope, released by Faith and maintained by LOVE

Tony & Marilyn Fitzgerald



TONY & MARILYN FITZGERALD

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