Core Seminars—Fear of Man

Class 5: A New Vision for Life: Loving & Serving, Not Fearing & Needing

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"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." (I John 4:18)

I. Reorientation to God that is from God

-His is a costly love

-He had a choice and He chose us—this doesn't boost our self-esteem, this devastates our pride.

-Rejoice in this God that has accepted, protected, covered us.

II. Reorientation to other people

-Because of God's costly love towards us, we can take big risks in our relationships with other people.

-Difference between loving/serving and needing

III. Who do we need to love and serve?

-Enemies (Luke 6:27-33)

- Neighbors (Matthew 22:39)

-Family

-Christians (Gal. 6:10)

- God (Matthew 22:37-38)

IV. What shape does this loving and serving take?

-I Corinthians 13 kind of love:

i. *Quality of speech/teaching doesn't matter without love.*
ii. *Sacrifice and giving without love is worthless…in other words, sacrifice doesn't equal love.*
iii. *Love is patient*
iv. *Kind*
v. *Does not envy*
vi. *Does not boast*
vii. *Is not proud*
viii. *Is not rude*
ix. *Is not self-seeking*
x. *Is not easily angered*
xi. *Keeps no record of wrongs*
xii. *Does not delight in evil*
xiii. *Rejoices with the truth*
xiv. *Always protects*
xv. *Always trusts*
xvi. *Always hopes*
xvii. *Always perseveres*
xviii. *Never fails*

-How this takes shape in the Church and serves to show the Gospel

-God loved us first…He loves the ones we fear

V. Developing a true servant's heart—How do we carry out a heart of love?

-Consider motivation.

-Look to Jesus (Philippians 2:3-7).

-Pray and confess.

-Minister to others in specific ways.

VI. Results of loving and serving rather than fearing and needing

-Unity

-Genuine respect and appreciation for others

-Fruit of the Spirit

VII. Conclusion