**What is Love?**

**I. Love**

Love is a disposition/action that purposes to advance the well-being of the one loved. Love functions kindly, patiently, hopefully always under the direction of God’s law, as the one who loves gives preference to the one loved without concern to personal cost.

Love is not a feeling. Love can often have feelings associated with it, such as affection, desire, or passion. Such feelings in and of themselves are not love, nor does their presence necessarily demonstrate love.

**II. Romans 5:8**

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[**III.**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5&version=KJV) **Love More Fully Understood**

A. The Lover – God

* The Creator of all
* The most high God, possessor of heaven and earth
* The powerful, majestic, and sovereign King
* The High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity
* The Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty
* The blessed and only Ruler, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords

 B. The Loved – Us (Saints)

 While we were yet sinners:

* Every intent of the thoughts of our hearts was only evil continually
* Deceitful and desperately wicked hearts
* Speaking lies
* Wearying ourselves to commit iniquity
* With mouths full of cursing and bitterness
* Feet that were swift to shed blood
* At war with God
* Likened to: an unwashed, discarded newborn in its own blood, and individual covered with wounds and bruises and putrefying sores, a dead and decomposing body.
* Deeds are likened to a menstrual cloth and a pile of dung/refuse

 C. The Sacrificial Act – Christ died for Us

 Christ was:

* Betrayed, mocked, beaten, humiliated, crucified, abandoned by God and punished by God, Becoming sin, so that we could become the righteousness of God in Him