

February, 2013



Dear Families of Gilead Bible Church,

February is a month in which love is a popular topic. The focus, of course, is on romantic love. It is especially relevant for us because, as Chinese people, we often frown upon discussing and initiating romantic love. As a result, relationships and marriages suffer because we do not know how to be romantic. I encourage couples to rekindle romantic love during this month!

On the other hand, there is another aspect of love which is just relevant and challenging. It is to love those who are our enemies. It is to love those who are not as lovable. This is true even in the church.

First, *imitate God*: "For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son... (Romans 5:10)." God took the initiative when we were his enemies. God gave his only son to bring about the healing of the broken relationship between himself and man. Maybe, you have an enemy. Imitate God, and take the initiative to bring about reconciliation.

Second, *impact with God's goodness*. The elements of God's goodness are listed in *Romans 12:14-21*:

- Bless those who persecute you
- Bless and do not curse
- Live in harmony with one another
- Do not be proud
- Be willing to associate with people of low position
- Do not be conceited
- Do not repay anyone evil for evil
- Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody
- If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone
- Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath
- If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink
- Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

May God's church exemplify the fullness of God's love in every human relationship!

God Bless,

Pastor and Helen Moy

2013年2月



親愛的基列聖經教會主內一家，

二月是一個以愛為熱門主題的月份。當然著重點是在浪漫愛情。這更是對我們作為中國人尤為有關，因為中國人並不習慣主動對愛情作出浪漫或討論。正因為我們不知道如何去浪漫，我們的關係和婚姻往往受到影響。我鼓勵在這一個月每對夫妻都能重新燃點你們浪漫的愛情！

首先，有一個不同層面的愛亦是同樣與我們有關和具有挑戰性的。就是愛我們的敵人；去愛那些不可愛的。甚至在教會裏，這也是真的。要效法神：“因為我們還作神仇敵的時候，且藉著神兒子的死，得與神和好...”(羅馬書5:10)。當我們還是祂的仇敵時，神主動與我們修好我們與神中間的破裂關係。祂以祂的獨生子來彌補人(因犯罪)與祂破裂的關係。也許你有一個敵人但要效法神，要主動的作出和解。

第二,是因着神美善的影響。神各樣良善的本性都在羅馬書12:14-21中列出:

- 祝福那些迫害你的人
- 只有祝福，不可咒詛
- 彼此和睦相處
- 不要驕傲
- 願意與卑微的人一起
- 不要自以為聰明
- 不要以惡報惡
- 要小心去做別人以為美的事
- 若是能行，總要盡力與眾人和睦
- 不要報復，我的朋友，寧可讓步，聽憑主怒
- 如果你的仇敵若餓了，就給他吃，若渴了，就給他喝
- 不要為惡所勝，反要以善勝惡

願透過每個人的關係在神的教會中例證出神豐豐滿滿的愛！

願神保守，
梅牧師和師母