



Monday, 12/19/16

THIS IS LOVE

READING: 1 John 4:7-12

During this time of year I become increasingly sensitive to the awesome depths of God's love. I cannot fathom a love so great. He left heaven and lived and suffered next to us – in fact because of us – all the while knowing He would die to atone for our sins. Wow!

What is it about God's love that is so amazing? His love equaled action! He sent His Son to earth to form a personal, loving relationship with us fully knowing the price of that love. Christ lived His life knowing He would end as the cost of His love. How are you living and loving this Christmas? This year?

Over the past couple of years, this time of year has become increasingly special to me because it serves as a waypoint along my journey in faith and followership of Christ. Godly love results in action -- not mere thoughts, feelings, emotions, or sentiments, but real action. This time of year I pause and reflect on whether my actions match my love. Am I acting on behalf of love or do I remain a passionate feeler?

I thank God for His example. I thank Jesus that He lived next to us, and that He took action to love, to teach, and to die to redeem us from ourselves. I can think of no better way to thank our Lord Jesus Christ for this gift than to be a loving people of action. Use this season to catalyze your transformation into a loving person of action, loving as He loved - so His love can be made complete in you.

-Kris Howell