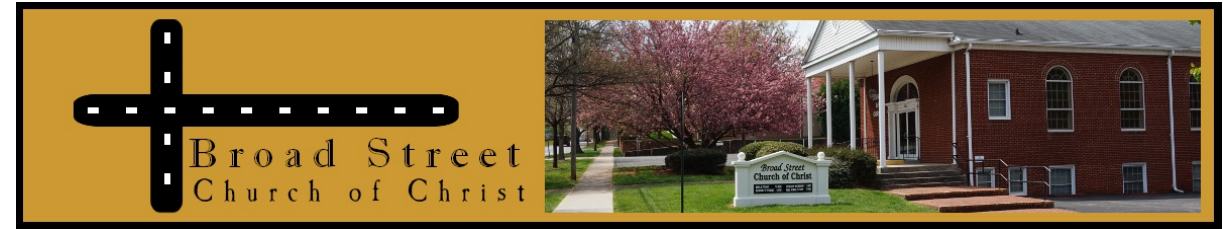


Broad Street Church of Christ
 433 E. Broad St.
 Statesville, NC 28677 | 704.873.4836
 www.broadstreetchurchofchrist.org



February 14, 2016

Valentine's Day

It's that time of year again, when businesses pull on the heart strings of couples to buy cards, chocolates, flowers, or jewelry—Valentine's Day. This annual holiday is often symbolized with hearts and images of "Cupid" shooting his arrow—but the real symbol of this special day is the almighty dollar. Last year, American consumers spent \$18.9 billion dollars on Valentine's Day gifts for their loved ones.

What kind of Love is on display for Valentine's day?

I love my wife—and I don't need some marketing ploy to guilt me into purchasing flowers or chocolates. In fact, I enjoy buying her special treats and gifts when she is not expecting it, just because I want her to know I love her all the time—not just when society indicates it's Cupid's turn for our wallet. Those who have been to our house know it is not uncommon to see fresh flowers in the kitchen all throughout the year—not just in February. So this is not the rant of some guy who refuses to buy gifts for his wife.

No, instead this is a rant that Christians start looking at love from a biblical perspective rather than a Hollywood version. Hollywood and those profiting from Valentine's business want the general public to view love as a mushy feeling that causes someone to feel warm and fuzzy inside. But real love is an action. Listen to the Biblical definition:

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

Want to really spoil your wife? How about obeying the command that Paul wrote, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:25-26). Notice

What must I do to be saved?

Hear the Gospel (Acts 15:7); Believe the Gospel (Mark 16:15-16); Repent of Sins (Acts 17:30); Confess Christ (Romans 10:9-10); Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)

Scripture Reading:	Steven Mozer
Song Leader:	Henry Rumble
Opening Prayer (A.M.):	Lenny Freeze
Closing Prayer (A.M.):	Scott Phillips
Opening Prayer (P.M.):	Tommy Smith
Closing Prayer (P.M.):	Bradley Speer
Nursery Attendant:	Fredna Stroud

Worship Times	
Sunday Bible Study	10:00 A.M.
Sunday A.M. Worship	10:55 A.M.
Sunday P.M. Worship	6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 P.M.
Elders	
John Anderson	704.592.2266
Steve Short	704.872.5440
Tommy Smith	704.872.7966
Bradley Speer	704.876.6986
Preacher	
Dave Wood	704.380.4437

Building Lockup:	Guy Byrd
Announcements:	Guy Byrd
Door Greeters:	Guy and Carol Byrd
Count Contribution:	Harry Frye, John Anderson
Prepare Lord's Table:	Elaine Johnson
Lord's Supper (A.M.):	John Anderson, Britt Brookshire, Bailey Lankford, Joshua Speer
Lord's Supper (P.M.):	Johnny Smith

(article continued)

it doesn't say to love your wife if she cooks your favorite meal or if it is Valentine's Day. We are commanded to love our wives. Furthermore, how many of us are actually washing our wives with the water of the word?

Want another Biblical wake up call? Read Titus 2:4 "that they [older women-BH] admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children." Did you catch that? Older women are to teach younger women to love their husbands. Why? According to the view the media presents "love" is something you "fall into" if you wear the right perfume, clothing, or drive the right car, right? Yet, the Bible is commanding older women to teach younger women to love their husbands. Want to know why? Because friends, love is an action that requires work. Sometimes your husband may not be very lovable, and it is in those moments when older women are to instruct how to love him anyway! That's real love. It is easy to love someone who loves you back or who is kind to you. But what about someone who is having a rough month, is sick, or knows all your faults?

Hollywood would not like the real picture of love, because the picture painted by Scripture is a selfless love. The beautiful picture we are given is Christ and the church, and the text reminds us that Christ gave Himself for her (Ephesians 5:25). Real love is about lifelong commitment—not some short-term fling that you can announce on Twitter in an effort to gain attention. And real love is about loyalty. Jesus Christ would never cheat on His bride, the church. And we are to follow His example.

Yes, Valentine's Day is coming. Isn't it time we demonstrate to our spouses and children what real love is all about? Take some time to read together Ephesians 5, Song of Solomon, 1 Corinthians 13, and Titus 2. It's way past time for our children to understand what real love is all about, and not base their relationships on some phony Hollywood version. Yes, I may shell out \$5-8 on a card, and I may even purchase a special gift for my wife this year. But my real gift to her is what I'm trying to do the other 364 days in the year—and that is to love her the way Christ loves the church. By: Brad Harrub

Welcome to Broad Street Church of Christ

A special welcome is extended to all of our guests. Please let us know if we can assist you. Please fill out a visitor's card which is located on the back of the pew in front of you. Deposit the card in the collection plate when it is passed. If you are looking for a place to worship regularly, we would love to have you here at Broad Street. Please come back and visit with us again.

SHUT-INS:

Ruby Gibson, Christine Cartner and Frances Elam.

PRAYERS:

Johnny Smith Jr., Phyllis Rumble, Stanley Sharpe, Helen Lyerly, Doris Ellenburg, Stacey Jordan, Will Winchester, Betty Smith, Jo Anne Leake and Roy Baldwin.

- Belle Alexander is recovering from cataract surgery.

- Franklin White is now receiving care at the Gordon Hospice House.

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 21: Men's training class will meet at 5:15 P.M.

Feb. 21: Baby shower for Casandra Bills in the annex at 3 P.M. - 5 P.M. Casandra is registered at Walmart.

Feb. 19: There will be a Valentine's dinner for the seniors of the congregation. This dinner will be hosted by the teens. Please sign-up if you plan on attending.

Feb. 28: Fourth Sunday evening singing. Don't forget the fellowship meal following evening services!

Mar. 12: Carolina Men's Fellowship from 9 A.M. through 3 P.M.

Mar. 13-16: Charlotte Avenue church of Christ will host a Gospel Meeting about, "Jesus, Our Lord and Savior." Monday through Wednesday meeting times will be at 7 P.M.

Sermons:

A.M. - How to Have a Happy 2016 prt Six (Matt. 5:9-10);

P.M. - Deacons and Elders prt Five (Titus 1:5-9)