



Welcome to Unity's Interactive Worship Service

Today's Topic: Love Is The Answer

Power Point notes available at:

www.unityofbakersfield.org

Love Is The Answer

Sometimes I think I have too much time on my hands and that's why my mind comes up with some very quirky questions about stuff like:

When was the first time a human being learned to sing? What was the song about? When was the first love song ever sung and was it for love found or love lost?

Love Is The Answer



In his Setting Your Heart On Fire, Raphael Cushnir writes:
"Love is the answer"
– it's a song, a bumper sticker, and a cliché.

Love Is The Answer



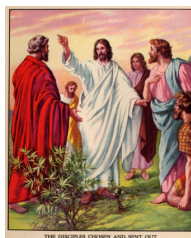
But in a way the message is misleading. It would be more accurate to proclaim that love is the question. To say that you have the answer is to say the question has been closed, that the investigation has been finished, that the discoveries that led to the answer have now been made.

Love Is The Answer

When we look at the lives of all our spiritual teachers over the course of history their central theme, their message is all about love.

The love of self, the creator's love for us, our love for the creator, and sharing that love with each other as an expression of God's love in the world of appearances.

Love Is The Answer



And from the Master Teacher:

**LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH
ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL, MIND
GREATEST COMMANDMENTS
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF**

Love Is The Answer

Self love, self respect, self worth. There is a reason they all start with "self." You can not find them in anyone else.

Quotes & Thoughts

Love Is The Answer

As Raphael Cushnir states in his book:

For most of us, putting this into practice is more difficult than it sounds. From childhood we're trained not to question but to conclude. We spend years developing a concrete identity, and then construct a life to reinforce it. We choose partners, friends, and communities of people who share our beliefs. We avoid or even judge those who don't.

Love Is The Answer

So, what's love got to do with it? Everything.

Does this mean that living in accord with love requires you to abandon your beliefs, opinions, and tastes? Of course not. But it encourages you to keep exploring, reconsidering, embracing, whatever you discover and any shifts in perspective that may result.

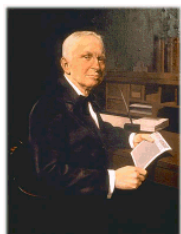
Love Is The Answer

Jesus illustrated love in action with this statement: "If someone asks for your cloak give him your shirt as well..." What's the message here?



Attachment to outcomes creates increases in our negativity towards the situation, blocking love's true activity of non-resistance!

Love Is The Answer



Charles Fillmore, co-founder of Unity, had this to say on the subject of love in his book Dynamics for Living:

Divine love, is God's universal idea of unity. In its expression, love is the power that joins and binds in divine harmony the universe and everything in it.

Love Is The Answer

Love is more than mere affection, and all our words protesting our love are not of value unless we have established our inner connection to its real substance, God, the matrix, from which the many phases of love are meant to be expressed.

Fillmore uses these examples to explain why love is the answer:

1. *Love is a force that runs through us like molten gold in a furnace.*

Love Is The Answer

It does not mix with the baser metals. It has no affinity for anything less than itself.

2. To paraphrase Paul's description of love: Love is patient. It never gets weary or discouraged. Love is always kind and gentle. It does not envy. Jealousy has no place in its world. Love never becomes puffed up with human pride, and does not brag about itself.

Love Is The Answer

3. It is love that refines the world and brings light to those who are in darkness, in spite of ego's influence and deception to keep the world in confusion and disorder.

4. Love does not seek its own, for its own comes to it without being sought.

5. Love is a divine principle, the drawing power of mind to attract to it all the divine attributes of God.

Love Is The Answer

6. Love never sees anything wrong in that which it loves and transforms all that it touches.

7. Love requires us, as co-creators with God, to demonstrate love in thought, word, and act.

8. Love is life, omnipresent, viable, and effective. When love is not present in our life we cease to fully and completely live.

Love Is The Answer

It seems that much of the world is living without the expression of love in their lives. We don't have to buy into it. We can be beacons of light to the world community if we practice thinking, talking, and acting out of love. After all love is the answer, so remember:

After all, life is really simple; we ourselves create the circumstances that complicate it.

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