



## 5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

# Love Is as Strong as Death

*“...Love is as strong as death,  
7Many waters cannot quench love,  
nor can rivers drown it.  
If a man tried to buy love  
with all his wealth,  
his offer would be utterly scorned.”*

(Song of Solomon 8:6-7 New Living Translation)

Harold was a friend, actually an acquaintance, an outstanding Christian in the community. A well respected man, a good father, a good husband, a faithful mate to his wife of 50 years. Then one day it happened. His wife passed away. He could not accept this. He questioned God although he had seen a miraculous healing of his mother that led his father to saving faith in Jesus Christ. His depression led him to withdraw from pretty much all Christian activity.

One day he decided he must see his wife, he must be with her. He closed himself in his garage, called a friend and told him to tell his daughter where he could be found. Then he took his life. The whole community was shocked. How could this happen? Love is as strong as death, he must be with his wife.

There was another man. I will call him Mr. C. He was married for 37 years, he had two children, a girl and a boy. One day Mr. C. went on a trip to see his son. While he was gone, Mr. C's wife left him and moved out. She was involved with another man she met at her work. Mr. C. couldn't accept this. One day, after she had left, he went to his farm with a rifle and ended his life. Love is as strong as death, He could not live without her.

I had two pups that I had purchased out of state. One was a female Sheltie which looked like a miniature collie. The other one was a male Papillon. They played hours on end and grew up together. They had two litters of pups together. He was a proud father and you could tell he loved his wife (female dog) very much. After years of being together, the female (her name was Gracie) developed cancer. She was quite sick and Sam (the male dog) was very concerned. Then it happened, Gracie passed away. Sam could not accept this. His life companion was gone. He refused to eat, even though my daughters tried hard to feed him and get him out of his depression. Sam willed himself to starve and died because he couldn't live without Gracie. These were animals, yet God's Word is true, love is as strong as death (Song of Solomon 8:6).

There was the true and living God of heaven. He had a Son He loved very much. He was so pleased with Him (Matthew 3:17), but there were people that He also loved. He loved these people so much that He gave His One and only Son (John 3:16 NIV) to die for them so that they might live eternally with Him because love is as strong as death. But in this redemption, God brought His Son back to life so that He would be the first of all these ones (the first fruits) of a new creation of people — called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

*“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don’t recognize that we are God’s children because they don’t know him. <sup>2</sup>Dear friends, we are already God’s children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.” (1 John 3:1-3 NLT)*

## Questions

- 1 God loved us when we were \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Love caused Jesus to die in our place.  
True or False
- 3 What should our greatest desire and quest be?
- 4 How did God show us His great love?

### **We want to hear from you!**

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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## Answer Key

**1** God loved us when we were sinners.

***“<sup>8</sup>But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. <sup>9</sup>And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. <sup>10</sup>For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. <sup>11</sup>So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.”*** (Romans 5:8-11 New Living Translation)

**2** Love caused Jesus to die in our place.

**True**

***“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.”*** (Hebrews 2:9 NIV)

**3** What should our greatest desire and quest be?

***“EAGERLY PURSUE and seek to acquire [this] love [make it your aim, your great quest]...”*** (1 Corinthians 14:1a Amplified Bible)

**4** How did God show us His great love?

***“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”*** (John 15:13 NIV)