



Seeing What We  
believe

Mark 12:24, Jn. 4:22

Mark 12:24 And Jesus answering said unto them, **Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures**, neither the power of God?

Jn. 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: **we know what we worship**: for salvation is of the Jews.

# MOUNTAIN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH BYLAWS

## ARTICLE 1

### NAME AND PURPOSE

## ARTICLE 2

### STATEMENT OF FAITH AND COVENANT

#### **SECTION 2.01—STATEMENT OF FAITH**

- (A) The Holy Scriptures.**
- (B) Dispensationalism.**
- (C) The Godhead.**
- (D) The Person and Work of Christ.**
- (E) The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.**
- (F) The Depravity of Man.**
- (G) Salvation.**
- (H) The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.**
- (I) The Church**
- (J) Separation.**
- (K) The Second Coming of Christ.**
- (L) The Eternal State.**
- (M) The Personality of Satan.**
- (N) Creation.**

**(O) Civil Government.**

**(P) Human Sexuality**

**(Q) Family Relationships**

**(R) Divorce and remarriage.**

**(S) Abortion**

**(T) Euthanasia**

Our doctrinal statement is as follows:

**(U) Love.** We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward those who are not believers, those who oppose us, and those who engage in sinful actions. We are to deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently, and humbly. God forbids the stirring up of strife, the taking of revenge, or the threat or use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice. Although God commands us to abhor sinful actions, we are to love and pray for any person who engages in such sinful actions. (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Rom. 12:9-10; 17-21; 13:8-10; Phil. 2:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Titus 3:2; 1 John 3:17-18)

Tonight, we consider a topic that runs throughout the Scriptures – LOVE – particularly, God’s love toward us, and how His love affects our lives as we live for Him, because we love Him.

### **Seven Different Greek words that are translated love:**

1. Eros: romantic, passionate love.
2. Philia: intimate, authentic friendship.
3. Ludus: playful, flirtatious love.
4. Storge: unconditional, familial love.
5. Philautia: self-love.
6. Pragma: committed, companionate love.
7. Agápe: empathetic, universal love.

<https://www.wellandgood.com/good-advice/greek-words-for-love/>

- “We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward those who are not believers, those who oppose us, and those who engage in sinful actions.”

Lev. 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but **thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.**

- The natural tendency of the flesh is to retaliate, and avenge ourselves.
- Love counteracts normal reactions.

Mt. 5:44 But I say unto you, **Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;**

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For **if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?**

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others?* do not even the publicans so?

48 **Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.**

- The expectation from our heavenly Father is to resemble Him by exhibiting extraordinary mercy and grace to those who do not deserve it.

- The love of Christ in the believer has a positive effect in that it MUST “get out” toward others.

1 Jn. 3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, **how dwelleth the love of God in him?**

18 My little children, **let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.**

Col. 4:5 **Walk in wisdom toward them that are without,** redeeming the time.

6 Let your speech *be* alway with grace, seasoned with salt, **that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.**

- “We are to deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently, and humbly.”



2 Tim. 2:24 And **the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men***, apt to teach, patient,

25 **In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;** if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

- The motive to love like the heavenly Father is to assist in delivering the lost like the heavenly Father.

Titus 3:2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.*

Luke 6:31 And **as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.**

- “God forbids the stirring up of strife, the taking of revenge, or the threat or use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice.”

Prov. 6:16 These six *things* **doth the LORD hate**: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him: ...

19 A false witness *that* speaketh lies, and **he that soweth discord among brethren.**

- A transformed life is exhibited by a transformed lifestyle – loving like Christ.

Rom. 12:9 **Let love be without dissimulation.** Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

17 **Recompense to no man evil for evil.** Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19 **Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 **Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.**

- The Exercise of Grace

1. His Character, 12:9

Rom. 12:9 **Let love be without dissimulation.** Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

2. His Contacts, 12:10

Rom. 12:10 *Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;*

- The Expression of Grace

1. Live Passively, 12:17a “**Recompense to no man evil for evil...**”

2. Live Peerlessly, 12:17b “...Provide things honest in the sight of all men.”

3. Live Peaceably, 12:18

Rom. 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

4. Live Positively, 12:19-21

a. The Prerogative of Vengeance is God's

Rom. 12:19 **Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.**

b. The Principle of Vengeance is God's

Rom. 12:20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 **Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.**

- “Although God commands us to abhor sinful actions, we are to love and pray for any person who engages in such sinful actions.”

Jn. 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; **as I have loved you**, that ye also love one another.

35 **By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

Rom 13:8 Owe no man any thing, **but to love one another**: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and **if *there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.***

10 **Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.**

## Conclusion

Phil. 2:2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye **be likeminded, having the same love**, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

3 *Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind **let each esteem other better than themselves**.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

1 Jn. 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love**; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 **Herein is our love made perfect**, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because **as he is, so are we in this world.**

18 **There is no fear in love**; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 **We love him**, because **he first loved us.**

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That **he who loveth God love his brother also.**