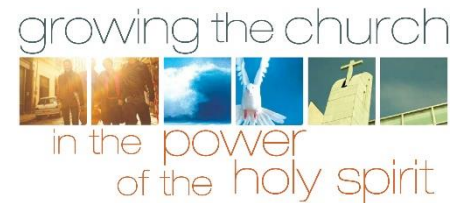


Video 3A

Step #1. Divine Love Drawing Us into Participation



The only possible starting point, and therefore the first step in the dance of cooperation with the Holy Spirit, is love. Love draws us into the dance because love reflects the very nature of God. It was the starting point for Jesus' ministry, and opens the door for us to engage in this work too, for without it we are nothing. As leaders we need to cultivate love in our own lives and in our churches. When we do, the stage is set for the Holy Spirit to come and lead us into participation with him.

GtC p.119

Love is our spiritual DNA

- ❖ Character of God
- ❖ 'Personality' of the Body of Christ
- ❖ Heartbeat of the Holy Spirit

"It is the foremost concern of the Holy Spirit to pour God's love into the hearts of his people. Without that love we are nothing, and have nothing to offer to a hungry world."

David Watson, I Believe in The Church p.175

Knowing the love of God in experience (Luke 10:27)

Showing the love of God in action (1 John 4:20)

The **fruit** of growing in love:

- ❖ Openness towards Jesus and His Spirit
- ❖ Context for the dance of cooperation
- ❖ Credible witnesses

Nurturing divine love in the congregation

1. Embody love (John 13:15)
2. Pray for love (John 17:26)
3. Learn about love (Revelation 2:4-5)
4. Remove obstacles to love
5. Ask the Spirit to guide into love