

## Review

Last time we talked about the A in ALOHA.

A - Air Share

Alo – Face to face

Ha - breath.

## Love ...

- God's love is all-encompassing.
- Seeking, feeding, nurturing, discipline, training, correction, leading, grieving, serving, healing, affection, embracing, suffering, accepting, rebuking, counselling, forgiving, hugging, saving, restoring...

Love is all of these things ... and more.

The “Love” in ... **ALOHA is the warm and inviting and honoring aspect of love!**

Yay!

While you need some amount of discipline, correction and rebuking part of Love, you really need a ***healthy dose of ALOHA*** for a healthy relationship.

So, the ALOHA aspect of Love is what we will touch on today.

I'd like to touch on something about love that is often overlooked, but at the **very core of ALOHA ... reciprocation**.

**God's kind of love prompts reciprocation.**

God's love prompts us to say, “*How can I give back to God.*”

This reciprocation is what ALOHA is all about.  
Remember that ALOHA means **face to face exchange of breath**.

Pure love gives.

- In an unhealthy relationship only one party gives, the other takes.
- But love in a healthy relationship both parties give.

When God commands us to love Him, He is saying that this is how love is supposed to work.

I love you, You love Me. (We're a happy family)

God's kind of love prompts a **two-way** Love.

Did you hear that?

You're probably thinking, I thought God's love is one way.

Yes, but it **prompts** a **response** of love. It only prompts. An individual has the choice to reciprocate ... or not.

This is why the God who is love tells us to love Him.

This is why God tells us to love **one another**.

So you and I receive love, love, love. Do we reciprocate???

Love longs for connection & companionship.

This is why we get lonely without deep fellowships.

Love is how you feel about your close friends and love ones.

Close friends and loved ones naturally reciprocate love.

The point here, is that while it feels good to **be** loved, and know that you are loved ...

I'm going to say it...

- It also feels good to **love** someone.

- It feels good to love God. I love to love God.
  - Something just feels right and fitting about our loving God.
  - MY Loving God satisfies MY soul.
- Likewise, it feels good to love others. I love to love others.
  - While driving I love to let someone go or cut in.
  - In line at the store, I had one item.
- It feels good to love others. That's ALOHA
- Have you ever heard any preacher say that before?
- If God is Love, it should be incredibly fulfilling to love God.
- It should be incredibly fulfilling to love others.
- And...
  - It should feel incredibly junk to not be able to love someone.
  - There are people I more than struggle to love.
  - It just shows how un-Christlike I am.

(Remedy for this might only be from God)

So that's the L (Love) in ALOHA.

The O in ALOHA is... **Offering**

- We Offer ourselves to the Lord, and we Offer ourselves to Others.

### **Offering to the Lord**

#### **Romans 12:1**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your lives as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship.

The word worship is to bow down as a servant would - to offer to serve God.

Note that you must offer yourself.

God will not just overtake your life.  
Offer your life to God today

Much of this ALOHA **Offering** to God has to do with prayer:

*Lord, I offer my life to You.*

*Lord, how can I serve You?*

*Lord, I thank you and praise You. (Heb. 13:15)*

Offering ourselves to God is All-encompassing.

- Offer small parts of your life:

- Activities
- Speech

Of course, **offering** your life includes an hour on Sunday, SG, Work, Interests & Recreation, finances, speech & conduct.

**Offering** your lives as living sacrifices to God.

To put it another way...

This **offering** is more of a **mindset** of offering whatever you do to God, and less of what you specifically do. (although sometimes it is)

- *God, I'm going to a picnic with some friends. Use my life.*
- *God, I'm going to work now. Please use my life.*
- *God, my friend wants to chat about something. Please use my life.*

## Offering to Others.

### **Galatians 5:13**

You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

Again, this ALOHA Offering to others begins with a question...

- *Can I help you?* (those in retail know this well)

- *How can I pray for you?*

**Illus:**

Japan Tour

Mt. Hermon

Visiting Japan Missionaries

Be a blessing, not a burden.

Roy: You know how you went to Japan with the idea to simply serve in worship?

Interestingly, both times I was on vacation. Yet I went with the attitude of **offering** myself to serve.

Caveat:

Everyone has a limit to their capacity.

But no one's capacity is zero. (unless you have a situation going on.)

**2 Cor 8:12**

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.*

Some of you already have that attitude to **offer** yourself to others.  
If you don't, you need some ALOHA!

Start small, or define your limits.

*I can help from 9-11 on Saturday.*