

1. Remember-Your Best Place
2. Work without love results in Weariness and Apathy
3. I Corinthians 13:1-3
4. 1. Remember where you started
5. Revelation 2:5 (highlight: Remember therefore where you have fallen)
6. John: the disciple that Jesus loved is given this message and he would return to the church at Ephesus, which he served
7. Sometimes, the fruits of the hands can hide the dryness of the heart
8. At what time in your life were you the closest in your spirit to Jesus? What about that time do you remember?
9. 2. Repent
10. Revelation 2:5 (highlight: repent)
11. Repent means to stop going in one direction and turn around to the opposite direction
12. John 16:8
13. It is the Holy Spirit that convicts. The approval of man will not change the voice of the Spirit!
14. John 15:5
15. The branch that is detached will become hard and brittle unless it reattaches to the nutrients of the vine. Love is that nutrient that satisfies the believer's heart and draws him/her closer to Jesus.
16. 3. Return
17. Revelation 2:5 (highlight: and do the works you did at first)
18. ALL children of God have had that powerful love at one time...especially at salvation; so, the command is do it again!
19. The process is not complete unless you go towards Jesus
20. Recognizing the problem doesn't fix it; only returning to that pure love for your Savior, Jesus, can fix the problem.
21. Luke 15:17-20
22. The prodigal son had to remember what it was like with the Father (v. 17); repent of his errors (vv. 18-19); and then return (v. 20).
23. The church at Ephesus failed to listen and was removed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century.
24. Will you remember, repent, and return? The branch cannot continue to produce fruit if it is not attached to the vine.
25. Removal of influence is promised if this process is not followed; however, blessing is given if practiced!

Questions:

1. We teach children the song "Jesus Loves Me," yet we sometimes forget that and it affects our relationship with Him. Do you believe that Jesus loves you? Even in the difficult times?
2. Has there ever been a time when you loved Jesus more than you do today? If yes, when? If no, what has sustained your love for Him?
3. Paul gave several power examples in I Corinthians 13:1-3 of mighty acts that meant nothing without love. How would you explain your love for Jesus?

4. Explain the significance of John writing the book of Revelation, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Is John known for his love or his actions? Share one example of John's love for Jesus.
5. Explain the phrase: the fruits of the hands can hide the dryness of the heart. How can you have a Spirit-filled heart and fruit?
6. Define repent in your own terms. Is it something that you do often? What are some hindrances to repentance?
7. Explain how you are the branch and God is the vine in John 15. What does a healthy relationship with Him look like? Can it be done on earth as it is in heaven?
8. Return is an important step. Many times we can remember what it was like to be right with God and love Him deeply, and we may even repent of it and genuinely want change, but we stop short of returning. Many marriages are stagnant, not because it's not recognized or even agonized, but neither one will take the step to return to the honeymoon phase. If you know your relationship with Jesus isn't what it once was, RETURN and experience that amazing love like you've done before. What are some things that make this step hard? (Hint: pride, lies, shame, etc.)
9. Describe how the story of the prodigal son demonstrates Remember, Repent, and Return in Luke 15:17-20. What part of the story would have been hardest for you to do? Imagine what love must have burst into the prodigal son when the Father embraced him; will God do the same for you?
10. God is not impressed with your resumé, He wants your relationship...your first love. Can you say today: I love the Lord my God with all of my heart, with all of my soul, and all of my mind? Or, I love Jesus more today than I ever have? If not, then we need to check the instruction: Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.
11. Remember the promise of this verse: To the one who conquers, I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God. God rewards those that love Him! How can we not love Him who first loved us. What is the significance of the tree of life?