

## LEARNING TO LOVE

Based on the book by Willard Tate

### *Part 1; Developing the Capacity to Love - Lesson 2 - 1/10/21*

Intro: A man to Willard Tate at one of his seminars: "I don't know about all that stuff you're saying about being motivated by love. I'd be afraid to give up fear." Read Luke 12:4-5. Do you think this describes the man above? Why? What was Jesus trying to tell his disciples then and us today?

Now read 1 John 4:17-18. What was John trying to tell his readers?

How would you define "unconditional love"?

*\* The greatest barrier to change broken relationships is F\_\_\_\_\_.* Willard Tate

### Chapter 2 - The Need to Change

*\* When we talk about learning to love God, ourselves, and others, we need to understand that it means some things are going to have to change. Change is an unavoidable part of life, and we'll never G\_\_\_\_\_ in anything if we don't change.* Willard Tate

*\*\* We all know that there are things in our lives that could be B\_\_\_\_\_; for example, relationships that aren't what we would like. There's room for I\_\_\_\_\_ MENT. We may want to see positive changes in our lives, but the fact is that things, including relationships tend N\_\_\_\_\_ to change.* Willard Tate

Why is our society failing so bad in maintaining relationships?

*\*\*\* Relationships are like gardens, we have to T\_\_\_\_\_ them!*

1. The easiest way to ruin a good relationship is to do \_\_\_\_\_!

*\* All that is necessary for the triumph of E\_\_\_\_\_ is for good people to do N\_\_\_\_\_ (anonymous).*

a. What would happen if the salmon quit their struggle and just drifted along with the stream?

*\*If you keep on doing what you've always been doing, you're going to keep on getting what you've always been getting!*

2. How do relationships get better?

If you want a better wife/husband, become a better \_\_\_\_\_!

If you want a better parent, become a better \_\_\_\_\_!

If you want a better boss/employee, become a better \_\_\_\_\_!

If you want a better church, become a better \_\_\_\_\_!

*\* Things get better when I get better!*

3. Change is P\_\_\_\_\_ FUL. It means leaving C\_\_\_\_\_ Z\_\_\_\_\_! It is a call to S\_\_\_\_\_ (deliberate & willful choice). It is a call to S\_\_\_\_\_ in humility (Calvary).

Read Romans 12:1-2. What did Paul have to say about this?

*\* If I ever grow, I must choose to hurt. Too often, both parties sit back and say, "I'll change when I see that the other party is willing to change first".*

4. Read Philippians 2:3-11 & 1 Corinthians 13.

In what ways did Jesus place our interests above His own?

What is the attitude of Christ that Paul is talking about in Phil.2:5? Why is it important for Christians to have this attitude?

List the ways in which one who truly loves is not self-centered (Refer to 1 Cor.13). How would this help marriages, friendships, & congregations?

Reflection: What do you have to do to develop such an attitude? Where do you begin?