

# PLAN FOR LOVE

## STAYING POWER | WEEK ONE PHILIPPIANS 2:1-8

*January 3rd, 2016  
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## NEW YEAR, NEW PLANS

### POSSIBLE PLANS FOR 2016

- Get a new computer
- Journal through the Daily Walk Bible
- Run, surf, swim or cardio 3 to 4 times a week; get a new bike with rack for surf rides. Get an elliptical trainer and recumbent bike for church.
- Give up chips, bread, pasta, and rice for a year.
- Instead have nuts, whole grain crackers, and quinoa.
- Make a plan for consistent actions on my part that will cause my wife to feel loved by me.

## WE WERE MADE FOR THIS!

### GOD HARD-WIRED HUMANS FOR RELATIONSHIPS

- God Himself lives in relationship as a Triune Being. He said, "Let us make man in our image." (Genesis 1:26)
- The greatest task we can do on earth is a relational one- "Make disciples of Jesus Christ" (Matthew 28:19-20)
- The greatest commandment we are to obey in life is relational: "Love God and Love your neighbor" (Matthew 22:26-40)

## SHOWING LOVE IS THE KEY

EVERY SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIP IS BASED UPON GIVING AND RECEIVING LOVE. Listen to how the Bible holds love in the highest esteem.

"Love never fails" "now remain these three faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love"

1 CORINTHIANS 13

"Above all, love each other deeply, for love covers over a multitude of sins"

1 PETER 4:8

“Over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity”

COLOSSIANS 3:14

“Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love!”

1 JOHN 4:8

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity”

PROVERBS 17:17

“Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth”

1 JOHN 3:18

## THE FOUNDATION FOR LOVE

- Jesus nailed down the essential meaning of love for us, and it is our foundation for all relationships.
  - Jesus said, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.”
1. Notice that Jesus is giving a commandment to love one another, thus cannot be talking about an emotion, but an action.
  2. Life is not only about loving God and neighbor but disciples of Jesus loving one another.
  3. The kind of love we show is to be like Jesus’ love for us!

## IT IS AN ATTITUDE

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-8

- Jesus put our interest above his own interest.
- “Don’t be selfish” refers to not being in rivalry
- “Don’t try to impress others” refers to not being full of yourself, speaking big words that don’t fit.
- To make another person feel more important than yourself is not a value statement, but a functional one- lift them up like a bride on her wedding day

## PLAN FOR LOVE IN 2016

Do you have a plan for showing love in 2016 in your most important relationships?

1. To put another person above ourselves is supernatural and takes God’s love. How can we show those we love that “you are the priority?”
2. If you are married renew your commitment to show love to your spouse in action. What could you do to demonstrate your decision to love them this week, this year?