

Love

Not the emotional kind

- I.** Christ is the Head of the Church (Eph. 5:23, 25).
 - 1. Similarly, the husband is the head of the wife.
 - 2. A husband is to be loving his wife.
- II.** Jesus' symbolic explanation of love (Jn. 13:1-15)
 - 1. During biblical times the custom of washing the feet of visitors was part of good hospitality.
 - 1) Abraham, three "heavenly" visitors (Gen. 18:4).
 - 2) Lot, angels (Gen. 19:2).
 - 3) Abigail, to David's messengers (1 Sam. 25:41).
 - 4) The "sinful" woman (Lu. 7:36-50).
 - 5) Young widows, hospitality (1 Tim. 5:10).
 - 2. The symbolic nature of this event (Jn. 13:7, 12).
 - 3. The setting was the night before the Cross.
- III.** Jesus washed all 12 disciples' feet.
 - 1. The foot washing was not for salvation (v. 10).
 - 2. Foot washing did not make them ceremonially clean (v. 10).
 - 3. Jesus' foot washing was an example/pattern of something else (v.15).
 - 4. Jesus remain Lord even though He performed the menial task of foot washing (v. 16).
 - 5. The foot washing was a demonstrative illustration of performing the New Commandment (vv. 14 *cf.* v. 34).
- IV.** Conclusion regarding divinely enabled love.
 - 1. Love is part of the Fruit from the Spirit—divine enabling (Gal. 5:22).
 - 2. Love is to be directed to other Christians—"one another".
 - 3. Love is an intellectual attitude—emotions in check, in the realm of the human spirit.
 - 4. Love always produces action (1 Jn. 3:18).
 - 5. Love is self-sacrificial; one can perform menial tasks yet remain consistent with his role in the Body.
 - 6. Love, performing the New **Commandment**, is not an option; it is an obligation for all Christians (1 Jn. 3:16).