

ARE WE MORE THAN WHO WE LOVE?

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love.  
Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 JOHN 4:16

This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear,

1 JOHN 4:17-21

because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar.

1 JOHN 4:17-21

For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

1 JOHN 4:17-21

We must not be defined by  
who we love romantically,  
but by the One who loves us eternally.

For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others—and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it.

**MATTHEW 19:12**

Celibacy isn't about saying "no" to love—it's about saying "yes" to the kingdom. It's not who we love that defines us—it's the kingdom we chase after together.

1. Reframe Marriage and Celibacy as Equal Callings.
2. Celebrate Celibacy as Empowering, not a Limitation.
3. Reclaim Celibacy as a Spiritual Discipline for All.

1. Acknowledge the complexity of identity in a fallen world.
2. Move beyond basic sexual ethics to a holistic view of humanity.
3. Champion a compassionate commitment to celibacy and community.

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake [which means "queen of the Ethiopians"].

**ACTS 8:26-30A**

This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

**ACTS 8:26-30A**

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

**ACTS 8:26-30A**

No one whose testicles are crushed or whose male organ is cut off shall enter the assembly of the Lord.

DEUTERONOMY 23:1 ESV

For this is what the Lord says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant—to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will endure forever."

ISAIAH 56:4-5