

**RCMI L-Path Teaching**  
**08/20/2023**

Title: **Abounding Love**

**Introduction:**

- God does not evaluate our lives by how much we have, our position, or our accomplishments—but by how we have shown love for others. Because of this, our prayers focus on how we can deepen our sensitivity to Christ’s love and pray that others’ love might abound. This becomes the chief goal for our lives and those around us because it leads to everyone’s greatest good.
- Church attendance and giving tithes are essential events for our Christian lives, but we are greatly mistaken if we define our Christian lives this way. Renewal takes place when we identify and work with inner spiritual changes.

Text: **Philippians 1:9-10 (ERV)**

<sup>9</sup>This is my prayer for you: that your love will grow more and more; that you will have knowledge and understanding with your love; <sup>10</sup>that you will see the difference between what is important and what is not and choose what is important; that you will be pure and blameless for the coming of Christ;

**Abounding in Love means...**

**A. Growing Love (9a)**

- *And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more*
- Love is caring; love is patient ; love is accepting a person where he is and not where we would like him to be; love looks beyond faults to what the person can be in Christ; love is bending and flexing when necessary.
- Without genuine love, we have nothing. Without love we are a spiritual zero.

**B. Controlled Love (9b)**

1. **In knowledge** - Christians are to love by knowledge. The word for “knowledge” in the Greek is **epiginosko** which means “full, mature knowledge” or “applied knowledge.”
  2. **In understanding** - Love demands that we know how to say the right things at the right time and how to keep quiet when the situation demands it.
- Abounding in love is growing in sensitivity.

### C. Discernment In Love (10a)

- <sup>10</sup> *that you will see the difference between what is important and what is not and choose what is important;*
- The word “discern” actually means “to put to the test for approval.”

### D. Christian Character To Love (10b)

#### 1. Pure.

- A better translation of “pure” is “sincere.”
- This is a picture-word in Greek which connotes “clearly examined in the sun-light” or “sun-tested.”

#### 2. Blameless

- The word “blameless” actually means “without offence” or “inoffensive.”

#### 3. Until the day of Christ

- Christians are to be loving, growing in love and abounding in love through knowledge and understanding, being sincere and inoffensive until the second coming of Christ.
- **2 Corinthians 5:10** - *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

### For Discussion:

#### Reflective Questions on Philippians 1:9-10

1. Are you seeking to increase Christ’s love in your life?
2. Has your love grown this year? (Elaborate on your answer)
3. How can you be a better learner so as to mature your love?
4. Do you need to show your love by seeking reconciliation with another?