

## **Agape Never Ever Quits! We Love the Unlovable!**

Dear Beloved of GOD,

In John 21:15 after that dinner on the beach Jesus asked Peter “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest (*agape*) thou me more than these?” These being his business, in other words: Who’s First? Peter responds by saying “Yea Lord; thou knowest I love (*phileo*) thee.” In other words, it’s conditional, and you are cool Jesus and I like what you just did. This is the third time Peter has seen the Resurrected Christ and he still doesn’t get it. Most would say, I’ve had it with you; what’s your problem? It’s been weeks and months and you still are soooo weak—not Jesus Christ. He hangs in there with him and to top it off He’s calling Peter to actually take care of God’s people. Oh my Lord. WHY? This guy Pete is so flaky. What does Jesus SEE? Jesus keeps going two more times and Peter never gets up to the standard that Jesus is calling him. What does Jesus do? He goes down to Peter’s level the third time and says “Lovest (*phileo*) thou me?” Many would say, Jesus what are you doing that for? This guy is “Mr. Drama” plus his emotions go from one extreme to the other.

What Changed Peter? We all know and read all about it in Acts 2: *Phileo* is not only conditional, it flakes out and it quits. The LOVE OF GOD (*AGAPE*) IN THE RENEWED MIND NEVER QUILTS. It takes work and more work, patience and more patience. *Agape* takes longer but it lasts a lot longer.

I had a W.O.W. [Ambassador] in 1974, who from the 1st day on the field (Madison, Wisconsin) bucked the program, me, and most of all—their family coordinator. It was constant, week after week, all year long. At the W.O.W. Pinning at the end of the year, this W.O.W. [Ambassador] came up to me after receiving their pin with tears in his eyes, and said “Thank you for putting up with me.” I told him the one he needed to thank was his family coordinator, for it was she who loved (*agape*) him and never quit on him.

**You are A LOVER! KEEP DOING IT!**

Bobby V

The S.O.S. Files

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