

The Communicator

First Christian Church, Russellville, KY February 2021
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February is derived from the Latin word “februs” which means “to cleanse”. The month was named after the Roman Festival, Februalia, a month-long festival of purification and atonement. This year Ash Wednesday falls on the 17th which begins the period of Lent Feb. 17 – April 1. February is also known as the “Month of Love” solely because of Valentine's Day.

What does God’s word say about both of these important principles? The Psalmist says in Psalms 51:10 *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me”*.

Paul says in Romans 12:1 *“offer bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship”*.

Paul writes in Ephesians 5:1-2 *“Follow God’s example... walk in the way of LOVE, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God”*.

February is a special month that touches the secular, romantic and the spiritual realms of our lives. When Valentine's day passes most of us will forget the human expressions of love and devotion to our loved ones. However, the deepest expression of love is more than candy, roses, and cards: it is remembering what Jesus did for us by presenting Himself as a living sacrifice for our salvation.

(John 3:16) There is no greater example to follow than our Heavenly Fathers love for us in sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. We are called to walk in love exemplified by Jesus. Love calls for sacrifice and forgiveness. Loving others is not always easy, and to be honest, not always enjoyable. Love can challenge us to the core of who we really are. Those that we truly love and are dearest to us are those we are willing to give all for regardless of the cost and inconvenience.

So, this Valentine’s day when you say “I Love You” consider the cost and depth of commitment of True Love because to love others as Christ loved us – costs.

It is my hope that you have or will discover the only true love; the Love of Christ who died for your sins on the cross.

It is all right there in the scriptures: Give me a clean heart and a renewed spirit, O God, so that I will be a living sacrifice for you and therefore Walk in the Way of Love!!!

Please know that as always, in and through Christ Jesus, I love you and love being your Pastor,

Bill



Let today be the
day you give up
who you've been
for you who can
become.

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Blessed Ash Wednesday