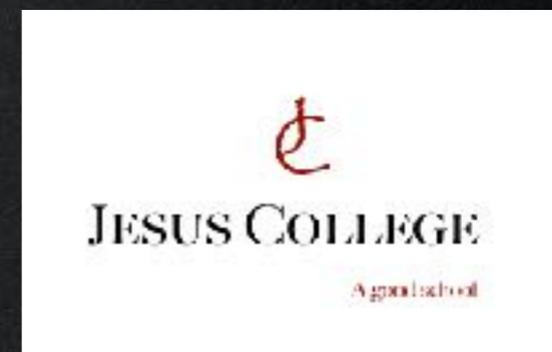




*WELCOME* to “The Humans Side of Holiness”  
by Dallas Willard  
a 17-week Course sponsored by



## Session 4 Summary

Salvation is a life where the love of God enters our whole person and begins to train our human system to love others like Jesus loved and teach them the same.



## SESSION 5 — LOVE AS A LIFE (2 OF 2)

**LIFE**



**Session Theme** — “Loving your neighbor requires responsible choices.”

“The second one is this,  
Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Mark 12:31

## **Love is Self-Limiting** — 1 Corinthians 13

Exercising Responsible Judgment in Love

*“Love is self-limiting because you are a finite creature in a communal context under God.”*

### *Jesus on Life & Love*

Understand Jesus teaching in context, not legalistically.

See the generalization He is dismissing.

*“Blessed are the Poor” vs.*

*The Poor are cursed and the Rich are blessed.*

How He teaches to understand what He teaches *Luke 14*

...or legalism will run over you.

## *Self-Limiting Self Love*

You have to be able to take care of everyone involved as much as you can and that involves you. And it's very important to take care of yourself because if you ruin yourself, you can't help anybody. You wind up a basket case of one sort or another.

## *Self-Limiting Love in Community*

Love is self-limiting because it sees what is good and that takes into consideration the finitude of every one of us and the fact that we live in a community.





I am trying to toughen up your understanding of what love is.

*Can you take the life of another in love?*

*Can a soldier battle in love?*

If you're going to be a I Corinthians 13 person, you have got to understand this. And then you have to be able to make judgments in humility—that is dependence upon God.



*Not infallibility, responsibility in love.*

*If you don't understand this, love as described in the New Testament and practiced in Jesus, will lead you to a death on the Cross with no resurrection.*

*The reason you don't do something is because of love.*



## **Q & A with Dallas about Self-Limiting Love**

Discretion of self-limiting love for parents and others

The risk of situational ethics

“Self-limiting” language in scripture

Acts of Non-Violence - *What good is at issue?*

Jesus’ act of Kenosis - emptying Himself

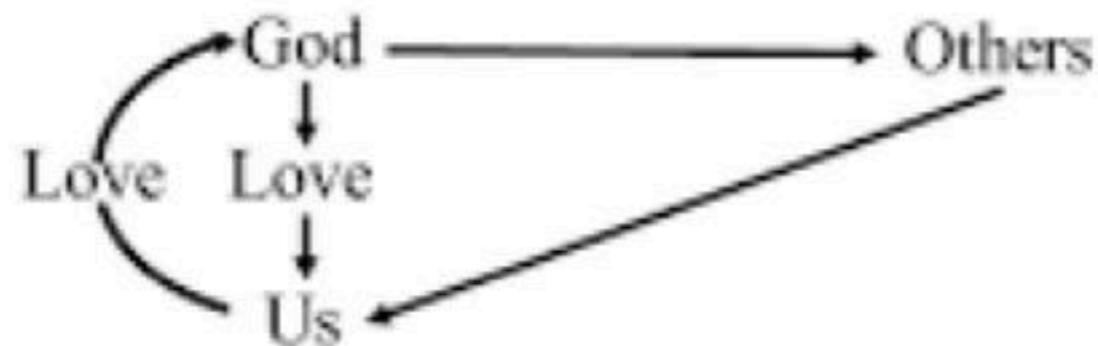
*Judgments always in terms of what is good.*

Loving one at the expense of another.

The language of unconditional love muddies the water  
because you give people what they want without limit.

*Unconditional love is only something God can do.*

## The Mature Life of Light, of Love, Truth and Power



This is the structure of perfected  
love that *CASTS OUT FEAR*.

Then we can stand to live in *TRUTH*  
And Then we can be trusted with *POWER*

Our vision of God takes away our fear.

Keep your lives free from the love of money, be content with what you have because God has said,

“I will never leave you or forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

~~~~~  
Though the fig tree should not blossom  
And there be no fruit on the vines,  
Though the yield of the olive should fail  
And the fields produce no food,  
Though the flock should be cut off from the fold  
And there be no cattle in the stalls,  
Yet I will exult in the Lord,  
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.  
The Lord God is my strength,  
And He has made my feet like hinds' feet,  
And makes me walk on my high places. Habakkuk 3:17-19

## **A Human Being as a Spiritual Being in a Spiritual World**

As a spiritual being in the Kingdom to a life of love, we have to come to think of ourselves as indestructible under God.

You can not do that if you think of yourself as a physical being.  
You are more than a brain.

*“When Christ who is our life shall appear then you also will appear with him glorious.” Colossians 3:4*

*“Then shall the righteous shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father.” Matthew 13:43*

*If you are living with Jesus, you are a participant in the Kingdom of God now. It's an eternal Kingdom. Eternal life is not something that starts after you die. Eternity is running now and you are invited to live in the Kingdom of God in a way that what constitutes your life here is preserved in what is eternal.*



## **The Path of a Disciple**

Living in His Word as apprentices of Jesus,  
putting it into practice, and the truth shall  
set you free from sin.

The truth makes you free by  
integrating you with reality.

## **The Primary Role of Faith**

Faith integrates you with reality  
if it's faith in what is true.

**YOUTH & BELIEF** — *One of the things that happens with young people is they pick up the idea that somehow they are to be condemned or not, or received or not, in terms of what they believe. And that discourages doubt. And they get locked into a legalism about correct belief and they wind up professing things that they don't believe because they haven't been allowed to come to them.*

### **Problem Cases :: Beliefs in the Virgin Birth & the Bible**

OK, how does that help me? Acceptance by group or God,  
or, it makes a huge difference in your life.

Love > Faith > Truth > Reality > Character > Power > Love

God's purpose for all of us is that we should grow to the point to where he can entrust us with the power to do what we want.

That's what our life is about — *Training for Reigning!*

**Flashback  
Session 3**

*“Prayer is a power sharing device for a world of recovering sinners.”*

Praying with confidence that God could do it! That's living in the Trinitarian structure of love, living in the truth, living from the invisible landscape, the Kingdom of God.

## **Loving Your Neighbor Means to Decide \* ...**

1.) To be a person of compassion

*You have to understand that if you're going to be a person of love and compassion, you have to limit it—and it won't be done for you.*

2.) Who your neighbors are - *significant degree of influence and that starts with our family. (The main step!)*

3.) Who is intimately engaged - *a fairly small number.*

4.) Focus on 2 or 3 people - *Loving your neighbor as yourself is a much more concrete, communal kind of thing that you need to identify and work with judgment made in love from the life that comes from the Kingdom.*

\* - Includes 13 Questions with Dallas' comments

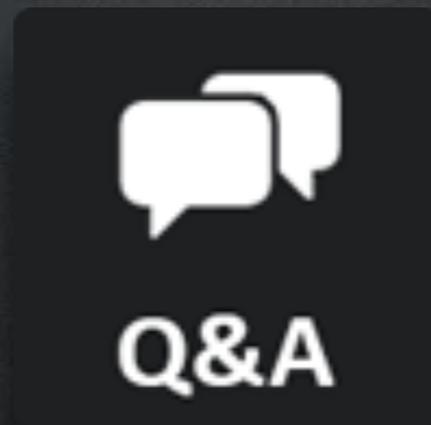




# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



80:00 + 10K

**Meditation** — Hebrews 13:5-6; Psalm 16:8

**V-I-M in your next 10,000 minutes...**

**VISION** — Can I and do I see limiting love as good and godly?

**INTENTION** — What drives me to love beyond my God given limits?

**MEANS** — How and with whom will I begin 4 steps of neighbor love?



† Cross Fit

## Session 5 Summary

Only God loves unconditionally. A mature, human love willing the good for our clearly chosen neighbor is self-limiting that includes a love for self. And the limiting won't be done for us.



## **Next Week — Session 6**

"REALITY AS SPIRIT" [50:20]

**“WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A SPIRITUAL PERSON?”**

May the unlimited love of  
God provide wise  
discernment to guide your  
limit on love in your only  
chance to live the next  
10,000 minutes.

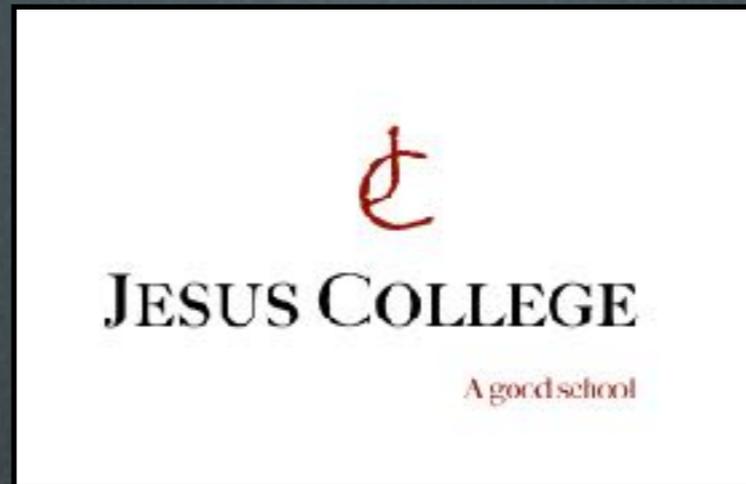
*Doug*



# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





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*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

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