

February 16, 2020

## Overflowing Love

1 Thess. 3:12 May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

Paul uses a term derived from the Greek root word perisseuo, which implies something that "overflows" or "spills over the top." Have you ever been pouring a drink and it overflows? Of course, we all have. But even though that is usually a bad thing, it is not when we are thinking of love. Paul says in essence, that we can't have enough love. Because God's love is ever flowing to us, we need to let it overflow to others. The key here is that His love is not something we have to manufacture or try to come up with. Instead we are to simply become God's conduit to let His love flow through us. This is a picture that helps me realize that it is Him who is alive in me and His love that flows through me.

Caution: What could keep that love from flowing? Clogged up pipes? Are we allowing the things of this world or our own selfishness to clog up the conduit of love that we are to be? Or maybe it is a root of bitterness that we have allowed to grow into that conduit that is keeping the love from flowing freely from Him, through us, to others.

Let us make sure that we do not become stopped up with the things of this world, but instead keep our eyes fixed on Him.

Dear Father, I want to stay open to Your love so that it can flow through me to others all around me. Please allow Your love to overflow and encourage those who are hurting or looking for hope. And Lord, please remove anything that so easily entangles me. In Jesus Name, Amen.