



REFLECTIONS

June 7, 2020

As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 13:34

The Basics of Love

“Let’s go to Luckenbach Texas...” the song goes, “Maybe it’s time to go back to the basics of love.” The 1977 recording performed by Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson rose to Number One on the charts that year. And as the story goes, the writers of the song found their inspiration from what they heard about a place they had never been. But they have the story right.

Friendships happen at Luckenbach Texas, a place filled with joy, laughter, country music, and peace. “Everybody’s somebody at Luckenbach,” it proclaims. One of the founder’s daughters once quipped, “At Luckenbach everyone wears the same size hat.” No one’s head is larger nor smaller there than anyone else’s. Her touch of humor describes the basics of love.

God is love. (1 John 4:16) That’s basic. Our Creator is love. In love He created the heavens and the earth. In love He prepared a beautiful place for us to live, to work, and to be. In love He made the world’s many parts work together in flawless order we know as nature. It grows itself, replenishes itself, energizes itself, reproduces itself, and provides all our worldly needs for life. For God so loved the world that he gave—the basics of love.

Before creation, nothing—formless and dark. From it, God created a place to give birth to mankind—living beings in his own image, God in kind, but not God, rather children of God. And He loved us so much that He allowed free will to love him back—or not. And He sacrificed his only Son to forgive us even when we don’t. That’s the basics of love.

When God created the world, He made each of us to be like no other, but—He made us all to wear the same size hat.

That’s the basics of love.

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

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