Introduction:

When we are not deeply and personally loved in ways that make sense to us, we will settle for any number of “pseudo-love” substitutes . . .

- Like the affirmation we receive from our ____________________________.
- Like the adulation we receive from ________________________________.
- Like the temporary intimacy we experience from illicit ____________.
- Like the attention we receive from ________________________________ or our ____________________________.
- Like the esteem we receive from ________________________________.
- Like the security we perceive in ________________________________.

Summary:

- Our quest to be loved deeply and personally create fast-paced, over-extended, complex lives driven to obtain success, fame, sex, looks, position, power, and wealth in the desperate hope that someday, someway, we will be loved . . . just for who we are!

- “What the world needs now is love sweet love, no not just for some, but for everyone.”
If what the world needs now is love, then...

1. Where do you find it?

- The source of love is ________________.

  “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

  1 John 4:7-8  (NIV)

  “The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.”

  Zephaniah 3:17  (NIV)

- God deposits His love in His follower’s hearts through His ________________.

  “We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.”

  I John 4:13-15  (NIV)

- When we are filled (controlled) by the Holy Spirit, the outcome/overflow is ________________.

  “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness . . .”

  Galatians 5:22  (NIV)
If what the world needs now is love, then...

2. How do you get it?

- God designed love to be birthed and modeled in our ________________
  
  Ephesians 5:18-6:4

- We often experience love most ________________
  when we need it most ________________
  
  Romans 5:3-5

*Experiencing God’s love requires that we:

1. Step ________________!
2. Step ________________!
3. Step ________________!
4. Step ________________!
5. Step ________________!
3. **How do you give it away?**

- **The 12 Application – “Serving in Love”**
  from the book - *True Spirituality.*

- Jesus loved His family, friends, and enemies by . . .

1. _____________ with them.  
2. _____________ with them.  
3. _____________ with them.  
4. _____________ with them.  
5. _____________ with them.  
6. _____________ with them.  
7. _____________ them.  
8. _____________ them.

**Discussion / Personal Application Questions:**

1. In what ways is your life too busy because you are settling for “pseudo-love” substitutes?

2. How deeply do you feel loved by God? On a scale from 1-10?

3. What “next step” do you need to take to experience God’s infinite love for you?

4. Who in your family and/or relationships desperately needs to know God loves them? How could you be a conduit of His love to them this week?