

22. First Love



Waves and wind blasted sand from on shore winds, are working together to fade a love heart carved years ago into a coastal rock cliff face. With effort, the initials of the two lovers can be just discerned. Into memory comes the image of the graffiti of lovers, carved into trees and walls along the banks of the Seine in Paris.

“Does love last or like the graffiti is it doomed to fade in time?”

All your students know some one close to them who has lost a dad or

mum from their home to divorce or the student himself bears the scars of the relationship parting in bitterness and resentment. Covenants and vows of love are rescinded. So students are taught by a string of experiences and gossip in the media that love might not last. In the face of this, you, day by day, declare God’s love for them, and your love commitment to them too. You, as an ambassador of the kingdom, are witness to the fact that the universe is laden with the signature of fidelity, which time and tide can’t erase. Every day you will show your fidelity to the pupils, irrespective of whether they repel you or accept your overtures. You do this because each student is an image bearer of their Creator, and because He has charged you to show your love for Him by feeding and caring for His lambs. And it’s the bruised, the unlovely and the exasperating, that most need the constancy of your affirmation and feeding.

Sometimes the presence of God is hard to recognize behind the disguise of their rebelliousness. By getting into His enabling Spirit flow today, makes that kind of love possible. Over reliance on self effort stanches this flow, and tells us we are forsaking our First Love.

Remember that your name is not carved on to a coastal cliff, but on to the very palms of His hands. It can’t be eroded. Recover your dear original love for the Master.

*See I have carved your name on My hands. **Isaiah 49:16***

*Do you truly love me? Feed my lambs. **John 21:17***

But you have forsaken your first love-----why? Recover your clear early love.

Revelation 2:4-5