

Love affairs are cool.

All one has to do is turn on the TV, or the radio, or look at any movie to see that humanity is obsessed with love. The idea of love, the trappings of love, the pain of love and the glory of love... all you need is love!

History and legend both are filled with stories of great love affairs; Romeo and Juliet, Antony and Cleopatra, Rhett Butler and Scarlet O'Hara, Lancelot and Guinevere, John and Yoko, Hope and Beau, Brad and Angelina, and on and on it goes!

Our economy is built largely on us these love affairs. Our consumerism isn't just for ourselves, you know. The biggest shopping days of the year are during the Christmas season, when the jewelry stores, electronics stores, lingerie stores, clothing stores, furriers, etc, make the majority of their money from people buying trinkets for their "main squeeze".

Let's face it. Everyone loves a love affair. There are even people in love with being in love. I once knew a woman who described love as "that overwhelming intangible", with which she herself was in love. She didn't even care much about who it was, she just wanted to be in love, and have that someone love her back. Hey; I'm not mad at her! After all, who doesn't?!

What we fail to see in all this "love stuff" is that humans are made in the image of God, and after all, God is love: "*He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love*" (1John 4:8).

We also fail to see the following: that this loving God is in love with humanity, so much so that He sent his only begotten Son to die for humanity: "*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life*" (John 3:16)... the ultimate Christmas present, no?

And God, in whose image we are made, wants love... total, unbridled, reckless, passionate, no-holds-barred love in return... with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, by the way: "*and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength*" (Mark 12:30).

But true to the testimony of all the worlds' great love affairs, God's got it bad! His love is so complete, so rapt, so total, that He never gives up pursuit of the object of His affection; you and me. To our dying breath, He pursues us. He is so in love, that even when we reject Him, He pursues. Even when we spurn Him, He pursues. Even when we deny Him, He pursues. Even when we lavish on another, that which belongs to Him, He pursues. This is Love.

As you go though your day today, think about this. God is trying to have a love affair with you.

Let Him, and love Him back.

Pastor