How to Stay In Love Forever

I. Love Story!!! His Story

Love is the subject of most human literature

Falling in Love, Staying in Love, and Faith that works are interwoven.

Kansas City Circuit Riders School

"First we're going to fall in love,
     then we're going to change the world.
          Let's keep first things first."

John 15:9 NIV "**As** the Father has **loved** me, **so** have I loved you. Now **remain in my love**. 10 If you obey my commands, you will **remain in my love**, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and **remain in his love**. 11 I have told you this so that **my joy may be in you** and that **your joy may be complete**.

12 My command is this: *Love each other as I have loved you.*

1 John 4:16 NIV … God is love. Whoever **lives in love** lives in God, and God in him.

1 John 4:18 MSSG There is **no room in love for fear.** Well-formed love banishes fear. Since fear is crippling, a fearful life—fear of death, fear of judgment—is one not yet **fully formed in love**.

19 We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. *First we were loved, now we love*. He loved us first.

II. The Battle for Love

A. A Culture of Tangible & Holy Affection

1 Pet 4:7 NKJ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. 8 And *above all* things

have **_fervent love_** **for one another**, for *"**love will cover a multitude of sins.**"* 9 *Be* hospitable to one another without grumbling.

NIV Above all, love each other **deeply**,

HCSB maintain... **at full strength**,

MESSAGE Most of all, love each other **as if your life depended on it.**

AMP ... **intense and unfailing**

Not just toleration… a cultivation of intense feelings of deep affection.
An action that produces a feeling in others

B. **Describing Love:** the personality of Jesus

1 Cor 13:4 NIV   Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it **_keeps no record of wrongs_**. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 Love never fails...

15 or 16 Traits of His Love for us… "As I have Loved you"

C. **Prime Enemies of Love**: Pessimism, Cynicism, Resentment & Envy

Sixteen Traits of His Love for us… Love as I have Loved

1. Marathon loving — never gives up

2. Acts in kindness

3. **No more envy.** It wants what you have. Be ruthless, I wish they had picked me. Subtle expressions -- competition. Sarcasm.   **FIRE THE EVIL EYE!**

4. Cancel the "ME" parade!

5. Let the air out. Don't puff it up

6. Good manners

7. **Not me first**.

> Jas 3:16 NIV For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find **disorder** and **every evil practice**.

8. Not touchy, (fly off the handle)

9. **No records of wrongdoings kept! FIRE THE ACCOUNTANT!**

10. Finds NO JOY in unrighteousness, evil

11. Rejoices with TRUTH, REALITY

12. Bears all, Keeps Confidential! στέγω (stego)

13. **Believes all   FIRE THE CYNIC!**

14. **Hopes all   FIRE THE PESSIMIST!**

15. Stands Under All Pressures

16. Never Falls to a Lower Level!

III. Cultural Revolutionaries!

A. **Fire the Accountant of Offenses & Inadequacies!**

> **"You're Fired!" No more re-hearsing past injuries**

> **"You're Hired!" To love & celebrate like God!**

B. **Celebrate Everyone Around You**

1 Cor 13:7 AMP Love bears up under anything *and* everything that comes, **is ever ready to believe the best of every person**, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].

A culture of continual and genuine encouragement

C. **Walks in Optimism**

> **...**its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances,

III. **Application — 2 Minutes of "first we're going to fall in Love, then change the world!"**

Righteousness

<div align="center">

Peace
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<div align="center">

Joy
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Ps 119:165 NIV Great peace have they who love your law (torah), and nothing can make them stumble.

MSG For those who love what you reveal, everything fits—
no stumbling around in the dark for them.

Kingdom *(Rom 10:17)*

Righteousness —	**Relationship**
Peace —	**Provision**
Joy —	**Emotional Wellbeing**