

# Matters of the Heart

Orthodox reflections on faith and life



## 02 It's all about Love!

The fundamentals of the faith and of all our Orthodox theology can be summed up in only three words - God is Love. The Gospel in a word is love. Our God is the God of love, since the Holy Trinity is a communion of love between three Persons of one Divine essence. And because man is created in the image and likeness of God, we are created to share and live in love.

*We are created by Love, with love, and for love.*

Our Lord instructs us, "By this all will know that you are my disciples, that you have love for one another" (Jn. 13:35). Our discipleship is thereby perfected in love. It is love that makes man Christ-like; therefore the more I love, the more I imitate the Lord who is Love.

+ "...God is love, and who  
+ abides in love abides in  
+ God, and He in him."  
+ 1 John 4:16

+ Also read:  
+ Matthew 22:36-40

+ O Lover of mankind,  
+ grant that I may be  
+ more like You by  
+ helping me grow in  
+ love with those  
+ around me.