

Gospel



THE GOSPEL AND LIBERATION FROM SELF-LOVE

Lesson 12

**Aron Osborne
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2 Corinthians 5:14-15

I. The 2013 Word Of The Year

Year



“This moment in dictionary history may also represent the culmination of the smartphone’s development – the time when its transcendent purpose becomes clear.

**With smartphone in hand,
we can now share with
others how our
narcissism looks to us.
Increasingly, everything
once again revolves
around us, but now
individually.**

**This is not just the year of
the selfie; this is the age
of the selfie.”**

~ Galen Guengerich
The Washington Post Article,
“Selfie Culture Promotes A Degraded Worldview”
January 31, 2014

**“Unsurprisingly,
narcissism levels have
been rising for decades.
Such increases pre-date
social media but they
have clearly exacerbated
since its emergence.**

At the same time, there has been a steep decline in altruism (*self-sacrifice*) and empathy levels since the advent of Facebook and Twitter. We are now more connected than ever, but less interested

in other people, except when it comes to finding out what they think about us! Freud, who would no doubt have thousands of Twitter followers today (if he could sum up his views in 140-characters),

referred to this as the
“hedgehog dilemma”.
That is, humans are like
hedgehogs in the winter:
they need to get close to
each other to cope with
the cold,

**but they cannot get too
close without hurting
each other with their
spines.”**

~ Galen Guengerich
The Washington Post Article,
“Selfie Culture Promotes A Degraded Worldview”
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II. A Gospel Kind Of Love

Gospel



**“For the love of Christ
controls us, having
concluded this; that one
died for all, therefore all
died; and He died for all
so that they who live
might *no longer live for
themselves,***

**but for Him who died and
rose again on their
behalf.”**

~ 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

**The Gospel assures
me that God loves me
far better than I could
ever love myself,
*which frees me to
radically love others!***

**“His astonishing love for
me renders self-
absorption moot and
frees me to move on to
causes and interests far
greater than myself.”**

~ Milton Vincent
Gospel Primer

II. A Gospel Kind Of Love

1. The love of Jesus
controlled Paul.

**“...because we have
concluded this: that one
has died for all, therefore
all have died...”**

~ 2 Corinthians 5:14

“For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

~ Romans 5:7-8

II. A Gospel Kind Of Love

1. The love of Jesus *controlled* Paul.
2. The affect of being controlled by love; *transformation!*

**“Indeed, I count
everything as loss
because of the
surpassing worth of
knowing Christ Jesus
my Lord. For his sake
I have suffered the**

**loss of all things and
count them as rubbish,
in order that I might
gain Christ...”**

~ Philippians 3:8-9

**“The more I behold God’s
glory in the gospel, the
more lovely He appears to
me. And the more lovely
He appears, the more self
fades into the
background like a former
love interest who**

**can no longer compete
for my affections.**

**Preaching the gospel to
myself every day reminds
me of God's astounding
love for me and also of
His infinite worthiness to**

**be loved by me above all
else. These reminders
deliver a one-two punch
to my innate self-
absorption with Christ.”**

~ Milton Vincent
Gospel Primer, pg. 30-31

**“Greater love has no
one than this, that one
lay down his life for his
friends.”**

~ John 15:13

**“God showed his love
for us in this, that
while we were yet
sinners, Christ died for
us.”**

~ Romans 5:8

