

Worldly love says: I will “love” you as long as I get what I want from you. Divine love says: I will give you what you need so that you may live forever, and I give my life for yours. God is the source of all life. Jesus said: “As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” (Jn 13:34; cf Jn 15:12-13; 17:23,26) “Jesus stopped and said, ‘Call him.’ So they called the blind man, saying to him, ‘Take courage; get up, he is calling you.’ He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ The blind man replied to him, ‘Master, I want to see.’ Jesus told him, ‘Go your way; your faith has saved you.’ Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.” (Mk 10:49-52) Bartimaeus followed Jesus into Jerusalem to see Jesus die on the Cross. Bartimaeus, being a disciple, followed Jesus to see His Resurrection. Bartimaeus followed Jesus to proclaim His death and Resurrection to the world. “‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ Peter was distressed that he had said to him a third time, ‘Do you love me?’ and he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ [Jesus] said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.’ He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when he had said this, he said to him, ‘Follow me.’” (Jn 21:17-19) Do you love Him? Do you follow Him?