

## *Heart Love*

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*Try this! Put your fingertips from your right hand up against the fingertips of your left hand. You have just made a bridge. But if you bend your fingertips together, and let your joined thumb tips drop a little downward, your hands create a heart.*

*How you formed this heart with your hands is what Heart Love is all about - it joins together and bends a little to meet the other. Heart Love is a love that gives of itself to another person then forgets the favor rendered. It is a love that finds something to love in the seemingly unlovable. Heart Love states, "I love you and I want you to be happy and to achieve the fullest stature of your being." Heart Love is what God has given us, and Heart Love is what we are called to give the world.*

*One night on Broadway, Mary Martin was preparing to go on stage, as she had a 1000 times before in Rodger & Hammerstein's South Pacific. Just before she took stage a note was handed her. The note was short. It simply said: "Dear Mary, A bell's not a bell until you ring it. A song's not a song until you sing it. Love in your heart is not put there to stay. Love isn't love till you give it away." The letter was signed by Oscar Hammerstein, who was that evening on his deathbed.*

*When the play was over the cast rushed her backstage and asked, "What happened? We've never seen you perform that way before?" Mary read to them Hammerstein's note and said, "Tonight, I gave my love away."*

*Make the heart again with your hands and put it up to your face. Take a look around and imagine taking a snapshot through your hand heart of everything and everyone around you. Now imagine going around every day doing that. The challenge before us is to continue to look at the world and people around us through our Heart Love perspective that others might know and experience God's Heart Love through us.*

*Remember, we are not necessarily called to like everyone, but we are called to love them. (Check out 1 John 4:7-8!) The ones we love are not supposed to be perfect, but it is the choice to love others and give love away that matures and perfects each one of us as Christians.*

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