

INTRODUCTION

- No matter how spiritual you think you are, there are times that you completely lose your cool.
- There are times that you simply forget how to respond to situations and you end up having a flesh fit.
- It is because of these times that God has developed a way for us to stay sane and to not lose our cool, enabling us to still be a strong witness to others.

MARKED BY LOVE

Matthew 3:16-17 (KJV)

16 *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God **descending like a dove**, and lighting upon him:*

17 *And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom **I am well pleased.***

- The Holy Spirit landed on Jesus, described as a dove/bird, and God said that He was well pleased.

Matthew 3:16-17 (MSG)

16 *The moment Jesus came up out of the baptismal waters, the skies opened up and he saw God's Spirit—it looked **like a dove**—descending and landing on him.*

17 *And along with the Spirit, a voice: "This is my Son, chosen and **marked by my love**, delight of my life."*

- Notice that when the Holy Spirit landed on Jesus God said that He was **marked** by His love.
- The **KJV** said that God was well pleased.

-God is always pleased when someone is marked by His Love.

John 14:16-17, 26 (KJV)

16 *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

17 *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

-Jesus desired for the very thing that marked Him to mark you.

-The world does not understand this marking.

-The bible actually says in **Ephesians 3:19** that this marking passes all knowledge.

Romans 5:5 (KJV)

...the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

-The Holy Spirit is a carrier of the Love of God.

-He was the one who God sent, at Jesus' request, to bring His own Love to you, and put it in your heart.

-Every believer has been marked by His love.

-This marking is to be shown when others see you.

GIVE 'EM THE BIRD

-In difficult times you cannot give people your flesh, it will not help them or you.

- Your flesh is a ticking time bomb that can get you in a lot of trouble.
- God sent us His love because it was the only thing that would work in every situation of our lives.
- Jesus Himself said in **John 6:44**, "*No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him...*"
- God draws people to Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.
- That is the same way that we are to draw people to Jesus Christ.
- The next time you are in a situation that seems like it's about to get out of control, **give 'em the bird**, the Holy Ghost.
- Give them the very thing that you are marked by, God's love.
- Take every opportunity, not just the ones were you are about to lose you cool, to take your marking and mark others.

1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)

*Most important of all, **continue to show** deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.*

- Instead of giving others your flesh, **give 'em the bird.**