Watch Out for These

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 6:11-7:2.
- B. The ministry of reconciliation is a ministry that all men are called to for healing and restoration before God.
- II. The problem of restricted affections.
 - A. To open up to someone is to love that person.
 - B. To close up to someone is to violate love—this is one of the greatest problems in churches today.
 - C. We are to love without condition as Jesus did.
 - D. As a result of this problem, the Corinthians were restricted.
 - E. Love requires a response in order to grow.
 - F. Lives that do not learn to love make life a hell for themselves.
- III. The problem of defiling compromises.
 - A. We are not to be unequally yoked with nonbelievers.
 - B. There are things that are impossible to mix together.
 - C. God dwells in His people—there can be no fellowship with Him and darkness.
 - D. One is not to take the yoke argument too far because believers are to be ambassadors for Christ in the midst of the world.
 - E. A yoke is a kind of permanent relationship such as marriage.
 - F. Yokes constrain people. Any relationship that does not allow a person to do what God wants is a yoke. These yokes must be broken.

Application questions:

1.	what does it mean t	that love must be re	eciprocal to grow?	

2. How have some gone too far in with the command not to be unequally yoked with others?
3. What are qualities that a person should look for in order to maintain an equal yoke with the partner that he or she chooses to spend the rest of his or her life?