

How We Are To Love

I. Where Does Love Come From?

A. God Is Love (I Jn 4:8)

B. God demonstrated His love toward us (Ro 5:8)

1. while we were sinners (God's enemies) Christ died for us
2. Christ brought us reconciliation while we were His enemies (Ro 5:10)
3. God's love was manifest by sending Jesus (I Jn 4:9)
4. We didn't love God but He sent His son to be propitiation (payment, satisfaction of debt) for our sins (I Jn 4:10)

C. Love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Ro 5:5)

D. Love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God (I Jn 4:7-8)

II. When Do We Know We Are Saved?

A. We know we have passed out of death into life because we love (I Jn 3:14)

B. If we love one another, God's love abides in us (I Jn 4:12)

C. The one who loves abides in God and God in Him (I Jn 4:16)

III. Why Do We Love?

A. Commandment

1. Should love one another (I Jn 3:11)
2. Love one another as He has commanded us (I Jn 3:23)
3. Commandment we have from Him - love your brother (I Jn 4:21)

B. Love is the fulfillment of the Law - What Christ did

1. Christ didn't come to abolish the Law or Prophets but to fulfill it (Mt 5:17)

2. Your righteousness needs to surpass that of scribes and Pharisees to enter kingdom of heaven (Mt 5:20)
3. Those who are in the flesh - cannot please God - not what we can do (Ro 8:8)
4. One thing we owe - is to love one another (Ro 13:8)
 - a) Love your neighbor as yourself (Ro 13:9)
 - b) Love does no wrong to a neighbor
 - c) Love fulfills the Law (Romans 13:10)

IV. Who Do We Love

- A. If we love the Father we will love the children born of Him (I Jn 5:1)
- B. One thing we owe - is to love one another (Ro 13:8)
- C. Love your neighbor as yourself (Ro 13:9)
- D. Love does no wrong to a neighbor - Love fulfills the Law (Romans 13:10)
- E. Who's My Neighbor?
 1. Luke 10:25-37 - Good Samaritan
 2. Everyone in need is my neighbor

V. How Is Love Exhibited?

- A. Lay down life for brethren (I Jn 3:16)
- B. Don't love in word and tongue but in deed and truth (I Jn 3:18)
- C. No fear in love (I Jn 4:18)
 1. Perfect love casts out fear (I Jn 4:18)
- D. We will love God and observe His commandments (I Jn 5:2)
- E. Love
 1. Is patient (I Cor 13:4)
 2. Is kind
 3. Is not jealous
 4. does not brag is not arrogant,
 5. does not act unbecomingly (I Cor 13:5)

6. does not seek its own
7. is not provoked
8. does not take into account a wrong *suffered*
9. does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth (I Cor 13:6)
10. bears all things (I Cor 13:7)
11. believes all things
12. hopes all things
13. endures all things.
14. never fails (I Cor 13:8)

VI. What If We Don't Love

- A. The one who doesn't love his brother in not of God (I Jn 3:10)
 1. To hate makes you a murderer (I Jn 3:15)
 2. The one who closes their heart against someone in need, does not love God (I Jn 3:17)
- B. We can't love God and not love the brethren (I Jn 4:20)
- C. If I don't have love, I am nothing. (I Cor 13:1-3)

Practical Ways of Loving - I Thessalonians

1. Working in the faith (1:3)
2. Laboring in the love
3. Steadfast in their hope
4. Living examples (1:5)
5. Taking the Word to those who need to hear (1:8)
6. Speaking boldly even in opposition (2:2)
7. Speak as pleasing to God not men (2:4)
8. Not coming with greed, seeking glory from men (2:5-6)
9. Not asserting authority (2:6)
10. Being gentle like a mother tenderly cares for her children (2:7)
11. Having fond affection (2:8)
12. Imparting the gospel and your life to others (2:8)
13. Working hard - day and night - not being a burden on any of you (2:9)
14. Live upright and devout lives (2:10)
15. Exhorting, encouraging, imploring each of you as a father would (2:11)
16. Praising the Lord for you (2:13)
17. Desiring to see them in person again (2:17)
18. You are my hope, joy, crown of exultation - your persistent faith
(2:19-20)
19. Deep concern about what they were going through (3:1-5)
20. Constant prayer (3:9-10)
21. Encouraging them in their walk (4:1-8)
22. Led a quiet life, attended to their business, and worked with their hands
- lived what they taught (4:9-12)
23. Comforting them when they didn't understand Biblical teaching
(4:13-18)
24. Patiently reminding them of what they have been taught (5:1-11)
25. Giving them instructions for their lives (5:12-22)