

## **Love others with God's love.**

There is a time to meditate on our needs and pray for our needs. I believe there is also a time to meditate upon how the love of God should pour out of us to others.

God's love, which is inside of us, agape, is an unselfish love. It loves others for their benefit not for our selfish satisfaction.

**The opposite of agape love is selfishness.**

**We must repent our way through this life in order to walk with God. Repenting from selfishness is a major issue!**

As we go through these Scriptures I urge you to allow the Holy Spirit to convict you with His divine revelation of selfishness in your lives. Repent and watch the love of God flow.

Your blindness to selfishness when repented will allow that which already resides in you to pour out to others. When God's love pours out of you it will give you peace, joy and satisfaction, and it will please God. You know that God has loved another person through you. It comes back to you.

Remember, that if you convicted of failure in the area of love, do not allow condemnation to take over. You are forgiven as soon as you confess your sin to God. The Apostle Paul admitted to failure in Romans chapter 7, but he ended with "no condemnation." James said that faith without works is dead, and Paul makes it clear that works without faith is also dead. Works are the result of faith.

**Jesus makes it very clear that when we do not at least make it our priority to obey Him, even in loving others, that Satan has the advantage over us. We may fail, but repentance clears it up. Keep trying.**

**Matthew 7:21-28,**

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and **does them**, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

25 "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and **does not do them**, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

27 "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching,"

**You can only love others through the power of God's love.**

If you find yourself unable to express God's love, as we will be describing, it is possible that your difficult past may have given you inner wounds that need to be healed. *Now listen to this!* God's love is so powerful that He went through the suffering of the Cross, the most painful death known to man for you. In that Cross experience He did indeed bear all of your wounds, or sin against you by others, and your sins and sinful nature. When you grasp this truth, the Love of God will begin to pour out from you.

**John tells us to stay close to God. It is the only way to make sure His love flows from you. It is the only way to cast out selfishness.**

**1 John 1:1-10,**

“1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life--

2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us--

3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.”

**Then John reminds us that if we really stay close to Him, the His love will pour out to others.**

**Give yourself this test.**

**1 John 2:5, 6**

“5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

**1 John 2:8-11**

“8 Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

9 He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.”

### **1 John 3:18**

“18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.”

### **1 John 4:8**

“8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”

### **1 John 4:17-21**

“17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

19 We love Him because He first loved us.

20 If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?”

21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

### **Attributes of love.**

#### **1 Corinthians 13:4-13**

“4 Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away.

9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.”

## **Commands to love others.**

### **Ephesians 4:29-32**

“29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.”

### **John 15:12**

“12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

### **Luke 6:31**

“31 “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.”

### **Proverbs 24:17**

“17 Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;”

### **Romans 12:10**

“10 *Be* kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;”

### **1 Peter 3:8-12**

“8 Finally, all *of you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous;

9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

10 For “He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.

11 Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it.

12 For the eyes of the LORD *are* on the righteous, And His ears *are open* to their prayers; But the face of the LORD *is* against those who do evil.””

### **Colossians 3:12-14**

“12 Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*.

14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.”

**Philippians 2:4**

“4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”

**Matthew 6:14, 15,**

“14 “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15 “But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

**Romans 12:17-21,**

“17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

20 Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

**Mark 12:31**

“31 “And the second, like *it, is* this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.””

**1 Corinthians 13:13,**

“13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.”

**John 13:34,**

“34 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

**Ephesians 4:1-3,**

“1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

**James 1:19,**

“19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;”

**Galatians 5:14, 15,**

“14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!”

**Matthew 19:13-15,**

“13 Then little children were brought to Him that He might put *His* hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them.

14 But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

15 And He laid *His* hands on them and departed from there.”

**Love your enemies.**

**Luke 6:27-36**

“27 “But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 “bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.

29 “To him who strikes you on the *one* cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold *your* tunic either.

30 “Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask *them* back.

31 “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

32 “But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

33 “And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 “And if you lend *to those* from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.

35 “But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

36 “Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.”

**Testimony.**

Back in the 1980s a Chinese Christian man testified in the church I was attending. He told the story of his mother being put in prison for her faith in Jesus. A guard in the prison continually beat her, and kicked her with his heavy boots until she denied Jesus. She kept saying, “I love you and Jesus loves you” over and over. Finally the guard fell on this face and asked her to pray that he could also receive this kind of love.

**Quote by Garry Wilkerson - <https://www.worldchallenge.org/page.aspx?pid=423>**

*“What does it look like to carry out the kind of love Jesus describes? The Apostle Paul helps by showing what happens when we don’t live out this kind of love. In his letter to the*

*Galatians, Paul lays out two types of sin. On the one hand he identifies gross sins, the kind we associate with outward behavior, such as sexual sins or substance abuse. But he also lays out a second type of sin—relational sin—and shows how it is just as deadly and destructive. Relational sin affects our souls to depths we never could imagine. It has an awful effect not only on our witness to the world but on the deepest parts of our being, and spreads to those around us.”*