

# Loving and Serving Others

**1. Love one another in response to God's love for us.**

**1 John 4:9–21. 1 John 4:9–11.** In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **1 John 4:21.** And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

**2. Love one another deeply. 1 Peter 1:22.** Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart. **1 Peter 4:8.** And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

**3. Genuine love is serving others. 1 Peter 4:9–10.** Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

**4. Love is absolutely essential; one is nothing without it. 1 Cor. 13:1–3.**

**5. Paul describes what love really is. 1 Cor. 13:4–7.**

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

**6. To love is to be devoted to one another. Rom.**

**12:9–10.** Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another.

**7. By washing the disciples' feet, Jesus modeled for us, showing us how we must love one another. John**

**13:2–17. John 13:14–15.** “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”

**8. Jesus commands us to love others in the manner in which he loved us, to imitate him. John 13:34.** “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

**9. Don't be self-centered, but look out for others; in this imitate Jesus. Phil. 2:3–5.** Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

**10. Jesus gave his all for us. Phil. 2:6–8.**

**11. Do not seek honor and prestige but, like Jesus, be ready to serve others. Matt. 20:20–28. Matt. 20:26–28.** “Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

**12. Attending to the needs of others is doing it for Christ. Matt. 25:34–40. Matt. 25:35–36.** ‘For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ **Matt. 25:40.** “And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ ”

**13. Don't become weary in doing good. Gal. 6:9.** And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

**14. Do good to all, especially to members of God's family. Gal. 6:10.** Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the house-hold of faith.

**15. Follow the golden rule. Matt. 7:12.** "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

**16. Don't be self-centered, but please others. Rom. 15:1–2.** We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please our-selves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.

**17. Imitate Jesus. Rom. 15:3.** For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me."

**18. Devote yourself to doing good. Titus 3:14.** And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

**19. You can find your life by doing good. Matt.**

**10:39.** “He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.”

**20. Love your enemies and those who persecute you.**

**Matt. 5:43–48.** “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” **Rom. 12:20–21.** 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.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**21. As members of Christ’s body, we all need one another; each member must use his or her gifts to serve others. 1 Cor. 12:1–31. 1 Cor. 12:4–7.** There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there

are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: **1 Peter. 4:10–11.** As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be-long the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**22. True freedom is to serve one another in love. Gal. 5:13–15.** For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another! **1 Thess. 4:9–11.** But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more; that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.