

How Can We Love Like Jesus?



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*** Before we list the ten ways we can love like Jesus and reflect His love, let's remember that in the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord, God's love --the greatest love of all -- was magnified, justified, and glorified.**

(Phil 2:2) Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Paul wrote that the Philippians could give him joy if they would be likeminded and united. They were able to be of one accord and of one mind because they all had the same love — the love of God.

Rom 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Only when we embrace the love God gives us and receive it into our hearts and minds can we be of one accord and one mind. And then we are empowered to love others, even the unlovable, because we know we were once the unlovable and God loved us.

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



In the Cross of Christ, God's Love was Magnified

God's sacrificial love was put on display for the people there to see, and for all people, from that time forward, to learn of and to open their eyes to the great salvation God has given us.

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.



In the Cross of Christ, God's Love was Justified

God's abundant love is both true and righteous and through faith in Jesus we are made worthy of the love He so graciously gives.

*Rom 3:24-26 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be **just, and the justifier** of him which believeth in Jesus.*



In the Cross of Christ, God's Love was Glorified

God's glorious love is grounded in the glory of His Person, in the glory of the Godhead — Father, Son, and Spirit. All three participated in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

(Read: [What are the Individual Works of the Father, Son, and Spirit in Redemption?](#))

John 17:4-5 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.



The Magnificent and Glorious Love of the Cross

- Hearts are seen everywhere—on Valentine's and other greeting cards, gift decor items and decorations for weddings, anniversaries and baby showers. And everyone loves the heart emoji ❤️
- Sometimes hearts are pink, blue, or another color, but most often hearts are red; And they're used to symbolize love.
- As Christians, a red heart should not be our way of depicting love
- because we understand that true love is from God.
- God's love is best represented in the cross of Christ. A heart is simply a human organ and it will stop beating and people do stop loving.
- Jesus' love is unending and unfailing. He will never die and He will never stop loving us.
- The cross also reminds us that true love comes from God (John 3:16) and that "we love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).



The True Love of God

The love of God is the truest and purest of love.

It is the agape love that we can only try to express to others
(Read [Is All Love Created Equal? 4 kinds of love](#)).

Because God IS love, His love flows freely, naturally, and without limit.

God is not capable of not loving. Human love is a choice.

We choose to accept or reject, to forgive or condemn, to love or hate.
And, as Christians, we have the choice daily to surrender to the power
of God's love living in us, or to walk in the flesh (the spirit of man) that
opposes God's will and His ways.



Choosing Love

We can train ourselves to choose love by immersing ourselves in God's Word. The apostle Peter reminds us to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Pet 3:18).

- Knowledge is important
- It must be understood that growing in knowledge is a choice.
- Christians can choose to embrace God's Word and spend time in reading, studying, and resting in all the Word
- Or they can choose to neglect the daily bread of the Word.
- Either way, God loves His children
- But how much time we spend in the Bible will influence how much we love God and others.
- Increased knowledge of God will always grow our love for Him and direct our lives to honor Him by loving and serving our neighbors.



The Law of Christ is Love

Jesus said:

Luke 6:27 But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one for another.

John 15:12-13 This is my commandment, That you love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

John 17:26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.



The Law of Christ is Love

John wrote:

1 John 4:10-11 Herein 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 ought also to love one another.

2 John 1:5 And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.



The Law of Christ is Love

Paul wrote:

Rom 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Gal 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.



The Law of Christ is Love

James wrote:

James 2:8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well

James, the brother of Jesus, called the law of Christ “the royal law.” Why did he call it that? Because Jesus is Love.

- And His Law is Love.
- And He is the King of our hearts.
- And His love is lavished on us.
- And His love is dwelling in us in the Person of the Holy Spirit, who is also God, therefore also Love.



10 Ways to Love Like Jesus

- 1. Speak without accusing:** [James 1:19](#) So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.
- 2. Listen without interrupting:** [Proverbs 18:13](#) He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him.
- 3. Answer without arguing:** [Proverbs 17:1](#) Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.
- 4. Promise without forgetting:** [Proverbs 13:2](#) A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.
- 5. Forgive without punishing:** [Colossians 3:13](#) 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.
- 6. Trust without wavering:** [1 Corinthians 13:7](#) [Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- 7. Give without sparing:** [Proverbs 21:26](#) He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.
- 8. Share without pretense:** [Ephesians 4:16](#) from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
- 9. Enjoy without complaint:** [Philippians 2:14](#) Do all things without complaining and disputing
- 10. Pray without ceasing:** [Colossians 1:9](#), For this reason, we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.



The Mind of Christ

1 Cor 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

- Our lives move in the direction of our most dominant thoughts. That's why we are told to take every thought captive for Christ by the renewing of our minds:

*2 Cor 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into **captivity** every thought to the obedience of Christ...*

Rom 12:2 be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..

- Transformation comes by the renewing of the mind, and renewing of the mind comes from knowing God - who He is, what He has done, and our relationship of who we are in Christ. This comes from God speaking to us through His word (Rom 10:17) and our speaking to Him is in prayer (Phil 4:6-7, 1 John 5:14).

Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Humility

(Phil 2:3) Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. reasonsforhopeJesus.com

- Mary said: (Luke 1: 48, 51, 52) For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden {51} ...He hath scattered the proud... {52} He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

1 Pet 5:5-7 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resists the proud, and gives grace to the humble. {6} Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: {7} Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

*(Phil 2:4) **Look** not every man on his own things, but every man [look] also on the things of others.*

- Paul says that we exhibit humility when we put others before ourselves. That's a choice, directed by our mind — directed by what we hear and where our eyes are focused. Our ear gates are to take in His words and our eye gates are to “see” Him.

In Christ, we can:

- Love others, because Jesus loves us.
- Forgive others, because Jesus has forgiven us.
- Serve others, because Jesus served us.

(Phil 2:13) For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

- “God’s good pleasure” is to magnify Himself through all creation. Revelation tells us we were created for His pleasure, to honor and glorify Him in all things:

Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

- We magnify, honor, and glorify God, when we reflect who He is. And who He is, is Love.

*1 John 4:16-18b And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love;** and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because **as He is, so are we in this world.** There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear...*



Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

1 John 4:19 We love him, because He first loved us.

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