



Part 2 (Lesson 10)

## **Loving One Another**

*Do you really want to be what Jesus wants you to be? Do you really want to be a mature Christian? Do you really want your life to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God? If so, this lesson is for you. Probably the most difficult thing to accomplish in the Christian life is to truly walk in love toward your brothers and sisters in Christ and to love people in the world like Jesus does. Let's see what God says about this.*

### I. Jesus' Example

- A. What did Jesus do in John 13:13-15? **(Washed His disciples feet – served them)**
  - 1. What did He say about this? **(He said that we were to follow His example and humbly serve one another as He humbly served us as His disciples.)**
- B. What do we read about Jesus doing in John 15:12-13? **(He showed His love for us by laying down His life for us.)**
- C. What did Jesus say in Luke 23:34? **(He asked God the Father to forgive those who were crucifying Him because He said they did not know what they were doing.)**
- D. How are we to love one another? (John 13:34-35) **(We are to love one another as Jesus Christ has loved us. He has commanded us to love one another.)**
  - 1. What will this accomplish? **(All people will know that we are Jesus' disciples.)**

E. We are to imitate Jesus' love. (Ephesians 5:1-2) (Hebrews 12:2-4) (Philippians 2:5) After reading these passages write what stands out to you about imitating Jesus' love.

**(Jesus' love was much more than just pretty words. He showed His love by becoming a man and laying down His life. His love involved action and sacrifice on our behalf.)**

## II. The Law Fulfilled

A. List the two greatest commandments. (Matthew 22:37-40) **(Love God with all your heart, soul and mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.)**

B. How do we fulfill the law of God? (Galatians 5:6, 13-15) (Romans 13:9-10)

**(We fulfill the law of God by loving others and serving them as Jesus did.)**

C. List the steps of Christian maturity in 2 Peter 1:5-8 **(Faith – Moral Excellence – Knowledge – Self-Control – Perseverance – Godliness – Brotherly Kindness – Love)**

1. What is the final plateau seen here? **(Love – That is “Agape” Love)**

D. What does God say is true if we do not love our brothers in Christ? (1 John 2:9-11; 3:10-12, 16-18; 4:20-21) **(If we do not love our brothers in Christ then we do not truly love God and are still in darkness. This love for our brothers in Christ will be seen in more than words. It will be seen through loving actions.)**

## III. Description of Love

A. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and list the characteristics of (agape) love found here – **Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**The Opposite of Agape Love is Selfishness! Love Puts Others First!**

B. Who perfectly exemplifies agape love? **(Jesus Christ)** (To be a “Christian” is to be a “follower of Christ” and someone who seeks to be like Christ.)

#### IV. Forgiveness

A. What are we warned of in Matthew 6:13-15? (Also read Matt. 18:21-35)

**(If we do not forgive others God will not forgive us.)**

B. What are we told to do in Ephesians 4:31-32? (Remember Luke 23:34)

**(We are to forgive one another as Christ has forgiven us. Jesus even forgave those who crucified Him saying that they don't really know what they are doing.)**

C. What does Colossians 3:12-14 teach us? **(We are to put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience toward one another. We are to bear with one another, forgive one another and show love to one another.)**

#### V. Unity and Family

A. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. What are we a part of and what do we mean to each other? **(We are a part of the body of Christ and we all need each other.)**

B. What kind of love are we told to have for each other in Romans 12:10? **(We are to be devoted to one another in brotherly love.)**

(The word "brethren" is used much in the New Testament)

C. Read Acts 2:42-47 and note how the members of the New Testament church treated one another. **(They were devoted to learning together, breaking bread (eating) together, fellowshiping together and praying together. They also were devoted to sharing with each other all that they had, making sure everyone's needs were supplied.)**

D. What is good according to Psalm 133:1-3? **(Brethren dwelling together in unity)**

E. We must **(be diligent)** to **(preserve)** the unity. (Ephesians 4:1-3 (NASB))

## VI. Care for One Another

- A. How should we talk? (Ephesians 4:29) (Read this passage carefully a number of times and let the Lord speak to you about how you should and shouldn't talk.) **(In all our conversations we should speak only that which is edifying and gives grace to the hearer. Saying things that may be true but do not edify are not acceptable.)**
- B. We are to **(bear)** one another's **(burdens)** (Galatians 6:1-2)
- C. The strong are to **(help and assist the weak)** (Romans 15:1-3)
- D. We are not to show **(partiality to those who are rich, talented, etc.)** (James 2:1-4)
- E. We come together to **(encourage one another)** (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- F. How should we treat one another? (Phil. 2:1-4) **(We should consider one another as better than ourselves and should consider the needs of others above our own needs.)**

## VII. Toward Those in the World

- A. Do not be **(unequally yoked or joined)** with an unbeliever. (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)
- B. Do not be **(in friendship)** with the world. (James 4:4) **(Note – The world system)**
- C. Jesus came to **(save sinners)** (1 Timothy 1:15)
- D. We are to **(love people and do good to them)** as God does. (Matthew 5:43-48)
- E. We are to be **(a witness for Jesus)** to those around us of Jesus' love. (Acts 1:8)

“Love them to win them, don't love them to join them in sin.”