

Living a Fruitful Life: Love
Galatians 5:22-23

Main Point:

Having been loved by God in Jesus Christ, show the same kind of love to others.

1. Love comes from the God of love.
2. Love is the chief of all graces and builds up unity.
3. Love is volitional and unconditional.
4. Love is [also] giving and forgiving.
5. Love is from the heart and reveals the heart.
6. Love is what you give to others when you've been loved by God in Jesus Christ.

1 John 4:8 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (NKJV)

1 John 3:16 16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. (NKJV)

Derek Thomas "Love is mentioned first because it is paramount. It is the chief of graces."

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. (NKJV)

Jerry Bridges "Love is not so much a character trait as the inner disposition of the soul that produces them all."

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. (NKJV)

Timothy Keller "It means to serve a person for their good and intrinsic value, not for what the person brings you."

John 3:16 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (NKJV)

Ephesians 4:31-32 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, even as God in Christ forgave you. (NKJV)

Jerry Bridges "God is the only rightful administrator of justice in all of creation, and His justice has been satisfied. In order to forgive our brother, we must be satisfied with God's justice and forego the satisfaction of our own."

Jerry Bridges "We should do more than just decide to do acts of love: we should desire to do them."

1 John 4:20 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? (NKJV)

Christopher Wright "Christian love is a matter of life and death. It's as serious as that. It's what proves you have passed from one to the other."

Christopher Wright "The cross is not just the means by which we are saved, but also the model for how we are to live."