

God is Love

Points to Consider

1. The Importance of Love
2. God is the Source of Love
3. The Manifestation of His Love

The Importance of Love

Ps 145:14-17 *The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. 17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. NIV*

The Lord is righteous and loving at the same time!

Matt 22:34-40 *But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. 35 Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, 36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" 37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."*

Love is at the _____ of the two greatest commandments.

1 Cor 13:13 At the end of his great treatise on love, Paul concludes that love is _____ than faith and hope.

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

People will know that we are Christ's disciples _____ we love one another as _____ has loved us.

Eph 5:1-2 - Christ's love included _____ Himself for us as a sacrifice to God.

Eph 5:25-28 - Husbands are to love their wives as _____ loved the church and gave Himself for her.

God is the Source of Love

1 John 4:7-8 *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

Love is of God. God is the _____ of Love.

Those who love are born of God and _____ God. A person who has an intimate relationship with God knows God's love first hand.

God _____ love!

Rom 5:1-5 *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. NKJV*

The love of God has been _____ out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

The Manifestation of God's Love

1 John 4:9-11 - God _____ His love by sending His only begotten son as the payment for our sins. God's love toward us is the _____ we ought to love each other. It isn't because other people are always loveable.

1 John 4:12-16 - If we love one another, God abides in us and we abide in Him. God has sent His Son as _____ of the world.

John 15:11-13 *These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.* NKJV

Jesus demonstrated His love for us by _____ down His life for us.
We demonstrate our love for Him by _____ His commandments.
We demonstrate our love for others by _____ them.

Rom 5:6-11 *For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.*

Notice how _____ we were of God's love. Christ died for us while we were without strength, still sinners, and God's enemies.

Eph 2:1-8 *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.* NKJV

We were _____, we walked after Satan, we conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, and we were children of wrath.
God's love prompted Him to act mercifully by making us alive with _____.

God is holy. God is righteous. God is loving.