

The Christian Walk
Walking in Love

Walk in Love

Ephesians 4:32 – 5:2 – “³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. ¹Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ²And **walk in love**, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” (NKJV)

2 John 6 – “And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you **walk in love**.” (NIV)

Dimensions of Love (Gr. agape')

I Corinthians 13:4-7, 13 – “Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. ¹³Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.” (NLT)

What agape' love is:

Patient

Kind
Faithful
Truthful
Hopeful
Enduring

What agape' love is not:

Jealous

Boastful
Proud
Rude
Demanding
Irritable
Unjust
Impatient
Score-keeping
Selfish

Demonstration of Love

I John 3:16-18 – “We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.” (NLT)

What is our reaction to someone in need?

Aversion-----Irritation----- Apathy-----Pity-----Sympathy-----Compassion

James 2:14-17 (true faith demonstrated by acts of compassion and love)

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Determination of Love

- We should love because God loves us.

I John 4:7-11 – “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” (NIV)

John 3:16, Romans 5:5-8

- Love encompasses all of the other commandments.

Romans 13:8-10 – “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not covet,’ and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

Matthew 22:36-40 ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Romans 13:8 “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.”

- Love is not about us...it’s about others.

Romans 12:9-10 – “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”

Galatians 5:13 “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.”

Ephesians 4:2 “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”