The Greatest of these is Love!

God Is Love

November 15, 2026

1 Corinthians 13 [1] If I were to speak with eloquence in earth's many languages, and in the heavenly tongues of angels, yet I didn't express myself with love, my words would be reduced to the hollow sound of nothing more than a clanging cymbal. [2] And if I were to have *the gift of* prophecy with a profound understanding of God's hidden secrets, and if I possessed unending supernatural knowledge, and if I had the greatest gift of faith that could move mountains, but have never learned to love, then I am nothing. [3] And if I were to be so generous as to give away everything I owned to feed the poor, and to offer my body to be burned *as a martyr*, without the pure motive of love, I would gain nothing of value. [4] Love is *large and* incredibly patient. Love is gentle and consistently kind to all. It refuses to be jealous *when blessing comes to someone else*. Love does not brag about one's achievements nor inflate its own importance. [5] Love does not traffic in shame and disrespect, nor selfishly seek its own honor. Love is not easily irritated or quick to take offense. [6] Love joyfully celebrates honesty and finds no delight in what is wrong. [7] Love is a safe place of shelter, for it never stops believing the best for others. Love never takes failure as defeat, for it never gives up. [8] Love never stops loving. It extends beyond the gift of prophecy, which eventually fades away. It is more enduring than tongues, which will one day fall silent. Love remains long after *words of* knowledge are forgotten. [9] Our present knowledge and our prophecies are but partial, [10] but when love's perfection arrives, the partial will fade away. [11] When I was a child, I spoke about childish matters, for I saw things like a child and reasoned like a child. But the day came when I matured, and I set aside my childish ways. [12] For now we see but a faint reflection of riddles and mysteries as though reflected in a mirror, but one day we will see face-to-face. My understanding is incomplete now, but one day I will understand everything, just as everything about me has been fully understood. [13] **Until then**, **there are three things that remain**: **faith**, **hope**, **and love**—**yet love surpasses them all**. **So above all else**, **let love be the beautiful prize for which you run**. TPT

10 Characteristics of Divine Love

1. Patient under stress
2. Kind at all times
3. Generous, not envious
4. Humble, not self-promoting
5. Never rude
6. Does not manipulate by using shame
7. Is not irritable or easily offended
8. Celebrates honesty
9. Does not focus on what is flawed
10. Loyal to the end

Deuteronomy 6 [5] **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart**, **with all your soul**, **and with all your strength**. NKJV

Matthew 22 [37] Jesus answered him, " '**Love the Lord your God** with every passion of your heart, with all the energy of your being, and with every thought that is within you.' [38] **This is the great and supreme commandment**. [39] **And the second is like it in importance**: 'You must love your friend in the same way you love yourself.' [40] Contained within these commandments to love you will find all the meaning of the Law and the Prophets." TPT

Let God Love You!

Ephesians 5 [1] **Be imitators of God in everything you do**, **for then you will represent your Father as his beloved sons and daughters**. [2] **And continue to walk surrendered to the extravagant love of Christ**, for he surrendered his life as a sacrifice for us. His great love for us was pleasing to God, like an aroma of adoration—a sweet healing fragrance. … [13] Whatever the revelation-light exposes, it will also correct, and everything that reveals truth is light to the soul. [14] This is why the Scripture says,

"Arise, you sleeper! Rise up from your coffin and the Anointed One will shine his light into you!" … [19] *And your hearts will overflow with* a joyful song to the Lord. Keep speaking to each other with words of Scripture, singing the Psalms with praises and spontaneous songs given by the Spirit! [20] Always give thanks to Father God for every person *he brings into your life* in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. [21] **And out of your reverence for Christ be supportive of each other in love**. [22] **For wives, this means being devoted to your husbands like you are tenderly devoted to our Lord**, [23] for the husband provides leadership for the wife, just as Christ provides leadership for his church, as the Savior and Reviver of the body. [24]In the same way the church is devoted to Christ, let the wives be devoted to their husbands in everything. [25] **And to the husbands**, **you are to demonstrate love for your wives with the same tender devotion that Christ demonstrated to us**, **his bride**. For he died for us, sacrificing himself [26] to make us holy and pure, cleansing us through the showering of the pure water of the Word of God. [27] *All that he does in us is designed* to make us a mature church for his pleasure, until we become a source of praise to him—glorious and radiant, beautiful and holy, without fault or flaw. [28] **Husbands have the obligation of loving and caring for their wives the same way they love and care for their own bodies**, **for to love your wife is to love your own self**. [29] No one abuses his own body, but pampers it—serving and satisfying its needs. That's exactly what Christ does for his church! [30] *He serves and satisfies us* as members of his body. [31] For this reason a man is to leave his father and his mother and lovingly hold to his wife, since the two have become joined as one flesh. [32] **Marriage is the beautiful design of the Almighty**, **a great mystery of Christ and his church**. [33] **So every married man should be gracious to his wife just as he is gracious to himself**. **And every wife should be tenderly devoted to her husband**. TPT

Galatians 5 [22] **But the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit within you is divine love *in all its varied expressions***: TPT

John 15 [5] "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. **He who abides in Me**, **and I in him**, **bears much fruit**; **for without Me you can do nothing**. NKJV

Ask God To Increase Your Love Every Day

1 John 5 [14] Since we have this confidence, we can also have great boldness before him, for **if we ask anything agreeable to his will**, **he will hear us**. [15] **And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask**, **we also know that we have obtained the requests we ask of him**. TPT

Matthew 7 [7] "**Ask**, **and the gift is yours**. **Seek**, **and you'll discover**. **Knock**, **and the door will be opened for you**. [8] **For every persistent one will get what he asks for**. Every persistent seeker will discover what he longs for. And everyone who knocks persistently will one day find an open door. TPT

1 John 3 [1] **Look with wonder at the depth of the Father's marvelous love that he has lavished on us! He has called us and made us his very own *beloved* children**. The reason the world doesn't recognize who we are is that they didn't recognize him. [2] Beloved, we are God's children right now; however, it is not yet apparent what we will become. **But we do know that when it is finally made visible**, **we will be just like him, for we will see him as he truly is**. [3] And all who focus their hope on him will always be purifying themselves, just as Jesus is pure … [10] **Here is how God's children can be clearly distinguished from the children of the Evil One**. **Anyone who does not demonstrate righteousness and show love to fellow believers is not living with God as his source**. [11]The beautiful message you've heard right from the start is that we should walk in self-sacrificing love toward one another.

… [14] **Yet we can be assured that we have been translated from *spiritual* death into *spiritual* life because we love the family of believers**. **A loveless life remains spiritually dead**. … [16] This is how we have discovered love's reality: Jesus sacrificed his life for us. Because of this great love, we should be willing to lay down our lives for one another. [17] If anyone sees a fellow believer in need and has the means to help him, yet shows no pity and closes his heart against him, how is it even possible

that God's love lives in him? [18] **Beloved children**, **our love can't be an abstract theory we only talk about, but a way of life demonstrated through our loving deeds**. [19] We know that the truth lives within us because we demonstrate love in action, which will reassure our hearts in his presence. TPT

1 John 4 [7] **Those who are loved by God**, **let his love continually pour from you to one another**, **because God is love**. **Everyone who loves is fathered by God and experiences an intimate knowledge of him**. [8] **The one who doesn't love has yet to know God**, **for God is love**. … [10] **This is love**: **He loved us *long before we loved him***. **It was his love**, **not ours**. **He proved it by sending his Son to be the pleasing sacrificial offering to take away our sins**. [11] **Delightfully loved ones**, **if he loved us with such tremendous love**, **then** "**loving one another**" **should be our way of life**! [12] No one has ever gazed upon the fullness of God's splendor. But if we love one another, God makes his permanent home in us, and we make our permanent home in him, and his love is brought to its full expression in us. … [15] Those who give thanks that Jesus is the Son of God live in God, and God lives in them. [16] **We have come into an intimate experience with God's love**, **and we trust in the love he has for us**. **God is love**! Those who are living in love are living in God, and God lives through them. [17] **By *living in God***, **love has been brought to its full expression in us so that we may fearlessly face the day of judgment**, **because all that Jesus now is**, **so are we in this world**. [18] Love never brings fear, for fear is always related to punishment. But love's perfection drives the fear *of punishment far* from our hearts. Whoever walks constantly afraid of *punishment* has not reached love's perfection. [19] Our love for others is *our grateful response* to the love God first demonstrated to us. [20] Anyone can say, "I love God," yet have hatred toward another believer. This makes him a phony, because if you don't love a brother or sister, whom you can see, how can you truly love God, whom you can't see? [21] For he has given us this command: whoever loves God must also demonstrate love to others. TPT

Galatians 5 [13] Beloved ones, God has called us to live a life of freedom. But don't view this wonderful freedom as an excuse to set up a base of operations in the natural realm. **Constantly love each other and be committed to serve one another**. [14] **For all the law can be summarized in one grand statement**: "**Demonstrate love to your neighbor**, **even as you care for and love yourself**." … [19] The behavior of the self-life is obvious: Sexual immorality, lustful thoughts, pornography, [20] chasing after things instead of God, manipulating others, hatred of those who get in your way, senseless arguments, resentment when others are favored, temper tantrums, angry quarrels, only thinking of yourself, being in love with your own opinions, [21] being envious of the blessings of others, murder, uncontrolled addictions, wild parties, and all other similar behavior. Haven't I already warned you that those who use their "freedom" for these things will not inherit the kingdom realm of God! [22-23] **But the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit within you is divine love *in all its varied expressions***: **joy *that overflows***, **peace *that subdues***, **patience *that endures***, **kindness *in action***, **a life full of virtue**, **faith *that prevails***, **gentleness *of heart***, **and strength *of spirit***. **Never set the law above these qualities**, **for they are meant to be limitless**. [24] Keep in mind that we who belong to Jesus Christ have already experienced crucifixion. For everything connected with our self-life was put to death on the cross and crucified with Messiah. [25] If the Spirit is the source of our life, we must also allow the Spirit to direct every aspect of our lives. [26] So may we never be arrogant, or look down on another, *for each of us is an original*. We must forsake all jealousy that diminishes the value of others. TPT