



Love one another as you love Christ

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother. 1 John 4:19-21

God loves everybody [Psalm 145:17](#). He brings rain on the just and the unjust. He is slow to anger and abounding in love and compassion [Exodus 34:6](#). God has commanded us to do the same. He has commanded us to love everybody even our enemies and to pray for those who mistreat us. As followers of Christ, we ought to treat everyone the same way that we would treat Christ. If we don't, Christ will not believe a word we say in prayer that we love him and cannot live without him and so on. How can Christ believe that we have a loving relationship with him when we don't have any or minimal relationship with our fellow brothers and sisters? This generation consists of people who would rather have a relationship with a dog or a cat rather than with another human being. It is because dogs and cats don't talk back to them or argue with them or get offended. Good deal! People pour out their heart, soul, mind, and money into animals rather than to another human being for whom Christ came and died. I tell you there are people in third world countries that are living in worse conditions than the dogs in America. People would rather invest in animals than feed the poor. I am not saying this because I hate animals. The scripture says that God takes care of both man and beast. [Psalm 36:6](#). I just want us to aware of what's happening around us.



We may think that we are having a good relationship with God by doing all the religious things like reading the bible, praying every day, giving one tenth of our income to the church, fasting twice a week and so on but if we don't treat people with love, we are just lying hypocrites. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.". [Matthew 25:45](#). Here we see God's amazing love for those who are lowly and those who are insignificant. Jesus is taking it as a personal offense when we don't treat people well. Jesus expects us to have the inside of our hearts as clean as how we present ourselves on the outside. [Matthew 23:25](#).

What good is our faith if we don't have enough deeds to back it up? [James 2:20](#).

What good is repentance if we don't turn away from sin?

What good is it to reading the bible everyday but make no effort to follow any of it?

What good is our Salvation if we are still the same old sinner?

What is it if we call ourselves the "children of the light" but still walk in darkness?

What good is it if we say we follow all of God's commandments but trample over the greatest commandment of love?

What good is it if we sing "Amazing grace" all day long but never show the same grace to anyone in our speech and in our actions?

What good is our religion if we aren't concerned about widows and orphans in distress?



Dear friends, it is not enough that we go to church and perform our religious duties. Sometimes when you walk into a church, you see people worshipping and praising God and crying out loud to God but when you see them after church they're like the people you see at the grocery store or at the mall that we don't know of. People are afraid of getting hurt so they don't want to deal with anyone or their matters. As Jesus said, "the love of people is growing cold" [Matthew 24:12](#). There are hurting people everywhere and we've got to look around with the eyes of Christ. We should not stop with just saying "hello". We ought to look for opportunities to serve others. That is what we're saved for. It is not enough that we're concerned about our own welfare. Whoever does that is an idolater and has no place in God's kingdom. Galatians 5:19-21. "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?"- [Mark 8:36](#). Jesus said, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." [Luke 12:15](#). Let us not do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than ourselves. Let us not only be concerned about our own interests, but also to the interests of others. [Philippians 2:2-4](#). There are people in need everywhere. There are people struggling with poverty. There are people battling addictions. There are people battling diseases. There are hurting people everywhere and they need someone to speak words of comfort and encouragement. There are broken hearted people everywhere and they need someone to heal their broken heart. There are people looking for answers to the problems in life and they need someone to tell them that there is a place that we, followers of Christ, eagerly look forward to, a place where there is no pain, no suffering and where God himself dwells among his people.



It is not enough that we love our own family and the people we feel comfortable with. Jesus said, “And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?” [Matthew 5:47](#). If we cannot get along well with each other on earth how can God expect us to get along with one another when we get to heaven. It is not enough that we worship God and think that our job’s done. True worshippers worship God in spirit and in TRUTH [John 4:23-25](#). True worshippers love not only in words but also in their actions [1 John 3:18](#). Let us not say to ourselves that we are Christians and have an easy ride to heaven. Let us count the cost of following Jesus. Let us not forget that we will be tested with fire. [1 Corinthians 3:13](#). “If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames”. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15. Let us not forget that every tree will be recognized by its fruit and that “the axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” “We ought to produce fruit in keeping with repentance”. Luke 3:8-9.

It is not enough that we get our own selves saved and get to heaven. There are people perishing all around us without Jesus. We have a responsibility, my friends. As followers of Christ we ought to be about the serious business of our



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Father in heaven i.e. is to reach out to those in need whether it is physical or emotional.

Love,

Victor