
God's love demonstrated.

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His love for us in this. While we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

God's love is:

- Costly
- No limit to what it will give for the sake of the beloved.
- Long-suffering
- Loves even those who spit in His face, who think evil of Him
- Sacrificial

1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

Key: p.1: excuses; because; feels; p.2: enemies! p.3: ultimate; tinge;

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Love

The Fruit of the Spirit—part 1

April 5, 2015

Galatians 5:22, 23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Human love

Matthew 5:43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

Matthew 5:46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

Matthew 5:47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

Human love

- E_____itself from loving difficult people.
 - is driven by what someone does for me
 - is driven by self and self's interests.
 - "loves" those who love them.
 - "loves" *as long as* someone else does "their part."
 - "loves" b_____someone is already loving you.
 - "loves" because "you make me feel a certain way."
 - "loves" as long as it f_____ "loving."
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God's Love

God's love: defined.

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

*1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love.***

God's love: even e_____!

Matthew 5:43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

⁴⁴ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

God's love: Why?

Matthew 5:45a ... that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.

God's love: illustrated.

Matthew 5:45b He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

God's love:

- is intentional
- acts in the best interests of the beloved
- is unconditional

God's love: Selfless

Matthew 5:48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

What kind of love is God trying to shape in us?

- Love with no of, "What's in it for Me?"
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