

True Godly Love!

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NASB 2020) If I speak with the tongues of mankind and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give away all my possessions to charity, and if I surrender my body so that I may glory, but do not have love, it does me no good.

I. Popular Love Verses

John 3:16 (NASB 2020) "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life."

Matthew 22:37-40 (NASB 2020) And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets."

1 Peter 4:8 (NASB 2020) Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Corinthians 13:13 (NASB 2020) But now faith, hope, and love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 John 4:7-8 (NASB 2020) Beloved, let's love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

- In the New Testament, "love" is used a total of 316 times.
- 1 John uses "love" approximately 44 times, with a particularly high concentration in chapter 4, out of 5 chapters total.
- The Gospel of John uses "love" approximately 35 times—out of 21 chapters total.

1 John has the highest concentration of love, mentioning it more than any other book in the NT.

II. What is Love

John 13:34-35 (NASB 2020) I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples: if you have love for one another."

Leviticus 19:18 (NASB 2020) You shall not take vengeance, nor hold any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

The "newness" wasn't in the idea of love — it was in the standard of love. In the Old Testament, the command was: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus raised the bar: "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

Jesus became the model and measure of love.

****1 John 2:7-11 (NASB 2020)** Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard...The one who says that he is in the Light and yet hates his brother or sister is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother and sister remains in the Light, and there is nothing in him to cause stumbling. But the one who hates his brother or sister is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

John 15:12-13 (NASB 2020) This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends.

Romans 5:8 (NASB 2020) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NASB 2020) Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

III. Scripture Give us a breakdown of true Godly love

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NASB 2020) Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant. It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own benefit; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong suffered, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

Patient—Kind—Not Jealous—Does not Brag—Is not Arrogant—Does not act Disgracefully—Does not seek its own benefit—Does not keep an account of a wrong suffered—It does not rejoice in unrighteousness—Rejoices with the truth—It keeps every confidence—It believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things—Love never fails.

IV. Patient

Patient: g3114. μακροθυμέω makrothymeō; from the same as 3116; to be long-spirited, i.e. (objectively) forbearing or (subjectively) patient: — bear (suffer) long, be longsuffering, have (long) patience, be patient, patiently endure.

1. to be of a long spirit, not to lose heart, to persevere patiently and bravely in enduring misfortunes and troubles
2. to be patient in bearing the offenses and injuries of others

It implies a patient, gracious endurance — maintaining unity and love even when others test your patience or fall short. Thus, bearing with one another means enduring one another's weaknesses, quirks, or offenses without breaking fellowship. It's an attitude of spiritual maturity that refuses to give up on people.

Ephesians 4:1-3 (NASB 2020) *Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Colossians 3:12-13 (NLT) *Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you.*

V. Does the mean to overlook sin?

1 Peter 4:7-8 (NASB 2020) *The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.*

When certain verses in the Bible are unclear, you must use the Bible as a whole to grasp a better understanding of what is meant!

Most think this means to overlook, excuse, or tolerate.

Colossians 3:12-13 (NKJV) *Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; **bearing** with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.*

Bearing: g0430. ἀνέχω anechō; or ἀνέχομαι anechomai; to hold oneself up against, i.e. (figuratively) put up with: — bear with, endure, forbear, suffer.

Does Love mean to cover up their sin?

Ephesians 5:10 (NLT) *Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.*

Galatians 6:1-2 (NKJV) *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.*

1 Corinthians 5:12 (NLT) *It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning.*

****Proverbs 10:12 (NASB 2020)** *Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all offenses.*

This does not mean that our love covers or atones for our sins. In the proverb, the meaning is that love does not "stir up" or broadcast sins. The major idea is that love suffers in silence and bears all things.

Romans 15:1-2 (NLT) *We who are strong must be considerate of those who are sensitive about things like this. We must not just please ourselves. We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord.*