

## Growing in Spiritual Maturity:

> Seeking - learning more about Jesus

> Following - attaching your daily life to Him

> Telling - sharing with others

There are many pieces we need to put together to become a mature follower of Jesus, but nothing is more important than loving others.



If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, -

but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:1 (NLT)

If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains -

But didn't love others, I would be nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:2 (NLT)

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; -

But if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:3 (NLT)



## The Gospel of John

- > Ch. 1 Prologue (Seeking)
- > Ch. 2-11 Ministry of Jesus (Growing)
- > Ch. 12-17 Final instructions (Leading)

> Ch. 18-21 Arrest, crucifixion, resurrection

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other.

Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

John 13:34 (NLT)

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

John 13:35 (NLT)

"I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love.

John 15:9 (NLT)

This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

John 15:12 (NLT)

This is my command: Love each other."

John 15:17 (NLT)

I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message.

John 17:20 (NLT)

I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one - as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

John 17:21 (NLT)

I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."

John 17:23 (NLT)



Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.

But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1 John 4:8 (NLT)

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

This is real love - not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

1 John 4:10 (NLT)

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.

1 John 4:11 (NLT)

No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

1 John 4:12 (NLT)



God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 3:10 (NLT)

This was his eternal plan, which he carried about through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 3:11 (NLT)

When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth.

Ephesians 3:14-15 (NLT)

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

Ephesians 3:16 (NLT)

Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

Ephesians 3:17 (NLT)

And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.

Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

Ephesians 3:19 (NLT)

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:19 (NLT)

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)

Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever!

Amen.

Ephesians 3:21 (NLT)



For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (NLT)

Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (NLT)

In the same way, he took a cup of wine after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people - an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it."

1 Corinthians 11:25 (NLT)





