

THE POWER OF

WORDS



THE POWER OF

PRAISE



THE POWER OF

LOVE

led by Mary Lowman



The Power of Love

November 25, 2025
led by Mary Lowman

John 13:34 -35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

What's new about this command?

John 15:9 – 12

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

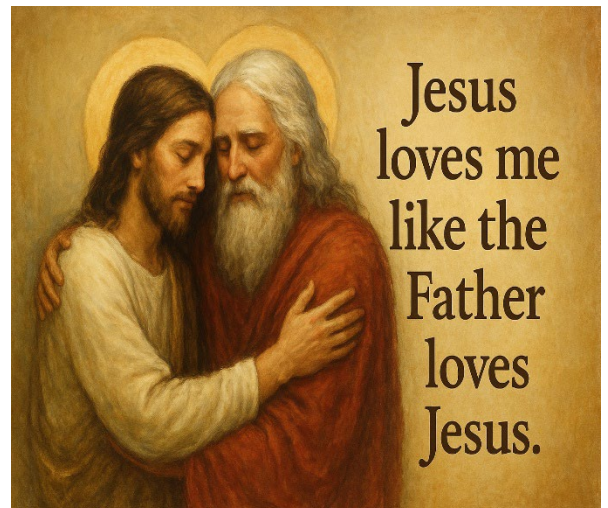
Jesus says that he loves you—his disciple—like the Father loves him.

1 John 4:7 – 12; 16b; 19 – 21

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

¹⁶ God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.



1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but

when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹²For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Love is patient and kind.

Does patience come easy for you? When you choose to be patient with someone, you are showing love.

Love does not envy or boast.

When you choose to rejoice with others instead of envying them, you have chosen to love them. When you refrain from boasting about yourself or your accomplishments, you are loving others.

Love is not arrogant or rude.

If you are not rude to that person who just cut in line in front of you, you have love. If someone treats you like they are better than you, you can let it go and not take it personally when you choose to love.

Love is not selfish or self-seeking.

Self-seeking is putting your needs above others. Not self-seeking is a high bar that Jesus holds for us when we choose to love.

Love is not easily angered.

Loving like Jesus means you don't have a quick temper.

Love keeps no records of wrongs.

Records of wrong are kept in your mind. Love decides to get rid of those records of wrongs done to you, to forgive even if they don't deserve your forgiveness.

Love rejoices with the truth, not evil.

When you love, you assume the best instead of the worse in people and you are never part of gossip or malicious talk.

Love is always hopeful and always perseveres.

Love means you simply hang in there with people, never giving up, always hoping for the best, listening when you don't want to listen anymore.

Love is transformational.

The love of God transforms us like no other love ever could.

It is God's love for us that transforms us, and then, it is our privilege and responsibility to share that love with others.

Romans 5:5:

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

When your need to be loved is met as you more and more understand that your identity is found in Jesus' love for you; when you daily remind yourself that you are the one Jesus loves—that is what gives you value and significance.



Ephesians 3: 17b – 19

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

How better can we love?

From: *The Greatest Thing in the World* by Henry Drummond

"The world is not a playground; it is a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday, but an education. **And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love.**"

It doesn't take much to share love with someone else. We just have to remember to do it because love is an action. Who is in your life that needs some love? How can you give them love?

- Practice the ministry of presence—spend time with someone who just needs your presence. You don't have to do anything special; just make it a point to be with them for some period of time.
- Be empathetic: Love may involve empathy, sympathy, or compassion for someone in your life.
- Let someone know you are praying or will pray for them—and then be sure you do.
- Express appreciation when someone has made an effort to do something.
- Be patient with someone who is not doing what they should do. Give them a little more time.
- Make it a point to express love toward those closest to you, even when they aren't as lovable as you would like.
- Find something good about a person or people and express it in words to them.
- Listen to someone's story without criticizing or lecturing them—even without giving advice.
- Call someone who is needy and say, "I'm here for you if you need me."
- Compliment someone on a job well done, an attractive outfit, a kindness offered.
- Smile!
- Other?

I encourage you—indeed, I challenge you—to read 1 Corinthians 13 every day for a week. Learning to see love as actions, not feelings, will make a huge difference, and it will transform the way you see others, which will in turn transform the way you treat others, which may well transform the way they respond and react to you. It could start a "trickle-down effect" that will astonish you.