

Wednesday Night



RECHARGE

THE FIRST FRUIT OF LOVE

“Walking in Love & Forgiveness!”

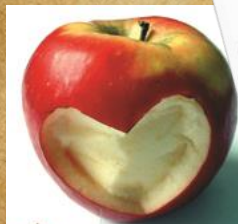
God's Definition of Love (Walking in the Love of God)

“⁴ Love endures with patience and serenity, love is kind and thoughtful, and is not jealous or envious; love does not brag and is not proud or arrogant. ⁵ It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]; it does not take into account a wrong endured. ⁶ It does not rejoice at injustice, but rejoices with the truth [when right and truth prevail]. ⁷ Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening]. ⁸ Love never fails [it never fades nor ends]...” – 1 Corinthians 13:4 – 8 (Amplified)

Scriptures

1 John 4:16; John 13:34, 35
James 2:8, 13; Romans 5:5
[Amp]; 1 John 4:7, 8

- Love come from God and everyone in His family can love like He loves because we share His nature ([Read 1 John 4:7,8](#))
- There are _____ aspects of the Love of God which can be described as light shining through a prism and dividing into many colors.
- **1st = PATIENT:** First of all, love is _____ for imperfect people. Love is not in a _____, but is persistent and prepared for the time for opportunities to come.
- **2nd = _____:** The best thing you can do for God is to be _____ to His kids! You can't love the Father and not love His children. Acts of _____ and love communicate happiness to those around us.
- **3rd = NOT ENVOIOUS:** _____ others, is not _____ but is generous. In any line of work, there will be others who are better and it is a temptation to push others down in order to get ahead. But love will help others to be their best, _____ them first.
- **4th = _____:** Jesus did not seek His own honor, but allowed God to honor Him. When you do a kind deed, humility is quiet, not bringing attention to itself.
- **5th = _____:** Love does the mannerly thing. g, no matter the level of education or culture, will be gracious when they walk in love. Love speaks the truth gently.
- **6th = UNSELFISH:** It is not grasping but generous, knowing it is more blessed to give than to receive. It is not stingy, but ready to share, given to hospitality.
- **7th = NOT EASILY PROVOKED:** Love does not have a bad temper. Great talents and influence can be completely destroyed in one fit of anger. There are sins of the body and sins of the disposition. For example, the sin of the prodigal son's older brother was greater because he was ungrateful for his father's constant provision and jealous of his brother's honor.
- **#8 & #9 = _____ AND _____:** Love does not find satisfaction in the shortcomings of others and it does not spread an evil



1 the fruit of
LOVE

- report. It aggressively advertises the good in people; it defends and holds other people up, credits them with good intentions and is not suspicious. It never gives up on people, but affirms and encourages them.

WALKING IN FORGIVENESS

- Walking in the God-kind of love; the love of God means also “Walking in Forgiveness”. Walking in Forgiveness is daily dealing our: Sins of _____ and _____ against others or God. Sins of _____ others bring into your life.
- Forgiveness steps include the following four 4 items: **Read Mark 11:25, 26**
 - #1 – Let it _____; #2 – Let it _____; #3 – Leave _____; #4 – Give up the _____

HOW TO DEAL WITH CONFLICT

- **Conflict** = a strong disagreement between people. A difference that prevents agreement.
 - It often results in a big argument.
 - Speak when you're angry and you will give the biggest mistake of a speech that you ever gave.
- *Peace is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to handle it by a peaceable means.* - Former President Ronald Reagan
- Most people don't want to change until the problem is more painful to change. *“Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.”* - **Luke 17:3-4 KJV**
- **Trespass** = violate a rule; commit an offense; to cross the line of acceptable behavior
- **Rebuke** = speak frankly; honestly and politely (it is done privately and confidentially)
- This is all done with the goal of restoration in mind. **It's all about the restoring the relationship. We are the ones seeking to bring restoration, not dividing and not offense.**
- Forgive mean to release someone from a debt. It is an idea that you're giving somebody something they don't deserve. *“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.”* - **Matthew 18:15-17 KJV**
- *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”* - **Galatians 6:1-2 KJV**
- Whenever you lower the standard the people will always go one step further.
- *“Truly I tell you, whatever you forbid and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit and declare proper and lawful on earth must be what is already permitted in heaven.”* - **Matthew 18:18 AMPC**
- **Read Matthew 18:1 - 4 (Amplified); Read Matthew 18:21 - 27; 28 - 35** (look at this in context)
- We are to forgive for restoration! We deal with it so that it can be restoration. Too often we don't do things because we were hurt. **Restore** = to set him right; restore; reinstate without any sense of superiority. We are to imitate Jesus in heaven and imitate Jesus in freely forgiving others. *“And become useful and helpful and kind to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate, understanding, loving-hearted), forgiving one another [readily and freely], as God in Christ forgave you.”* - **Ephesians 4:32 AMPC**
- *“THEREFORE BE imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father]. And walk in love, [esteeming and delighting in one another] as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God [for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance. [Ezek. 20:41.]”* - **Ephesians 5:1-2 AMPC**
- **What will give you the ability to forgive = LOVE!**
- *“Clothe yourselves therefore, as God's own chosen ones (His own picked representatives), [who are] purified and holy and well-beloved [by God Himself, by putting on behavior marked by] tenderhearted pity and mercy, kind feeling, a lowly opinion of yourselves, gentle ways, [and] patience [which is tireless and long-suffering, and has the power to endure whatever comes, with good temper]. Be gentle and forbearing with one another and, if one has a difference (a grievance or complaint) against another, readily pardoning each other; even as the Lord has [freely] forgiven you, so must you also [forgive].”* - **Colossians 3:12-13 AMPC** *“Make allowance for each other's faults, and **forgive anyone who offends you.** Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”* - **Colossians 3:13 NLT**

SETTLING DIFFERENCES

- *“If another believer sins against you, go privately and out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.”* - **Matthew 18:15-17 NLT**
- Jesus tells us that the most important thing is not who is right or wrong in a dispute, but that peace is kept between brothers and sisters in the family of God. In other words, winning your brother or sister is more important than winning an argument.
- The “one or two others” mentioned are to be impartial. As impartial observers and hearers, they can make an objective and prayerful decision. Again, the desired result is the gaining of the brother or sister. **Settling strife is the honorable conclusion God is looking for.** *When issues are settled behind closed doors, **the first benefit** is to the local body of believers. Because little or nothing is known by others, gossip and discord cannot begin. **The next benefit** is toward unbelievers. Because strife is not seen, the issue of the gospel can be kept clearly before them, even by those believers who at one time had contention between themselves. The Holy Spirit is involved in the private settling of strife and in the public declaration of the gospel.*