

**John 13:35** [Jesus said,] “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

1. Just as all **different** kinds of people become Christians within the **context** of church, Christians have many different **gifts** meant to be used within the context of the local church.
2. No true Christian can say that they do not belong to the **body** of Christ. Even though we all have different **spiritual** gifts, we cannot practice those gifts **outside** of the church body.
3. Jesus said that **everyone** would know His disciples by their **love** for one another. No one can demonstrate the love of Christ for His disciples by **themselves!**
4. Believers in Christ need other **believers** in the church because the Christian life is lived by serving others in **love**. If there is no love for other **believers** in the life of someone who professes to know Jesus, then they do not **know** Jesus at all. (1 John 3:16)
5. Even though parts of our **physical** body seem less honorable, we take care of them with even greater **devotion**. God wants us to show love and **care** for every member of the body of Christ, from the **weakest** to the strongest.
6. You cannot separate **growth** in spiritual maturity from growth in **love** for other believers. Since the Word of God **promises** that all Christians will grow in their faith, it promises that all Christians will grow in their **love** for the church. If there is no love, then there is no true **faith**. (2 Thessalonians 1:3)

#### Application

1. Because you **love** them, make it a passion of your heart, your priority in life, to be among the people of Berkeley Crossroads as often as you can be.
2. Because you **love** them, be often praying for the people of Berkeley Crossroads by finding out their prayer needs and praying for them.
3. Because you **love** them, do not ever consider it a burden to lay down your life for your brothers and sisters of Berkeley Crossroads.