***13****If I speak in the tongues[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%2013%3A1-8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28667a)*] 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,[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians%2013%3A1-8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28669b)*] 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.* **– 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8**

***7****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.*

***16****And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.* **– 1 John 4: 7-8, 16**

In today’s culture, we use the words Love and Like that convey a wide variety of meaning: e.g. love my wife, my dog, ice cream, football, a movie, a restaurant . . . Like is a \_\_\_\_\_\_ with emotional attachments. Bible Love is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Unlike modern English, the Bible, especially the New Testament \_\_\_\_\_\_ has four words in defining love. These words are very specific in meaning:

1. **Eros**  - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Love
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Desire and Pleasure (Erotic)
* Longing for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Ecstasy
* It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that can lead to Lust
1. **Storge** - Mutual love and blood bonds of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Responsible tough love)
* Familial affection and appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Psalms 22: 6)
* Rulers relationships with the subjects; Employer & Employees
1. **Phileo** - Philos = Friend (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)Romans 12: 9 -18)
* Philemia = Kiss (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Philosophia = Love of Knowledge (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Philadelphia = Love of Brothers (City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Philoxenia = Love of Strangers (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Philanthropia = Love of Mankind (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
1. **Agape** - Biblical & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Love with right attitude where the source is God’s character
* Meeting needs with benefits for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God with no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Love with a foundation based on God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Love for an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ child
* Unconditional
* Sacrificial
* Heroic & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Selfless
* Giving
* Forgiving
* God expects believers to model these attributes of Jesus Christ
1. Agape Love is a Godly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Agape Love is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Agape Love Produce \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the Old Testament Hebrew, **HESED** is used to mean Lovingkindness that:

1. Do what is right with long suffering! (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
2. Demonstrate Steadfast Love and Loyalty Love (Hosea \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
3. Deliver Love with Grace and Mercy (Kind, absorbs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; forgiving, not mean, not nasty, not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; keeps no records of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 4: 6-16)

Know that God’s Love is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ form and is uncaused, unreasonable, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, unlimited, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and uncomplicated.

In His Word, God the Father reveals to us that He loves:

1. His \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. God loves the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Regenerated/born-again Jews and Gentiles)
3. God loves the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:16)
4. God loves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Know that our natural response is \_\_\_\_\_\_ – Resulting in separation from God. The unbeliever and believer exhibits Disloyalty, Betrayal and Abandonment by way of the Lust of the \_\_\_\_\_\_, Lust of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Pride of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Our motives are self-serving, corrupted and not pure.

Know that we must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our minds and growing to be Christlike (Romans 12: 1-2) and response \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 5:1)

**The Apostle Paul’s letters to the Churches talks about three key words: Faith, Hope and Love.**

**FAITH**: Knowledge and Fear/Reverence of God – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrews 11: 1)

 Acts of the Will - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Experience – Joy, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Confidence

**HOPE**: 100 percent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of future blessings (Absolute Certainty & Trust in God’s Promises)

**LOVE:** It is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the three. The relenting love of God (unyielding). It is part of God’s nature.

*“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. 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.”* **- Romans 5: 1-5**

*“We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another”* **- 1 John 3:16**

Here we glimpse the depth of the gift and the gravity of the demand. Christ gives unconditional love for us, even to the point of death.

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*.” **- John 3:16**

*“The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed ...”* **- Hebrews 1: 3**

*“Walk in Love - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant.”* **- Ephesians 5: 1-2**

*“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” -* **Matthew 22: 36-40**

**THE PRACTICE OF LOVE – How shall we live? Life of Faith, Hope, Love with Joy & Peace.**

Requires intentions of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to involve understanding, capacity and opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christ Agape Love and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel message to the world.

**TRUE INDICATORS & APPLICATIONAL ACTION PRINCIPLES – We are inclining to be:**

1. Honoring, Delighting and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God daily and properly, individually & corporately.
2. Trusting, Studying, Knowing and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God
3. Acknowledging, Praying, Imitating and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christ and His Sovereignty, Holiness, Mercy & Grace
4. Unwrapping His Spirit Gifts and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Good Fruits for God and our Neighbors
5. Edifying and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ other believers without expecting anything in return
6. Exercising Contentment & friendly spirit in all situations \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in good deeds and truth.
7. Acting and Working as a co-worker for and with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, not for men (Colossians 3: 23)
8. Being a Living Sacrifice (being Selfless and not Self-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) - *“Be Him in the World”*
9. Restraining the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Bitterness, Envy, Maliciousness, Cold Heartedness & Resentment
10. Exhibiting sensitive concerns and empathy for benefitting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in need and during their suffering
11. Helping, Serving, Supporting, Forgiving and \_\_\_\_\_\_ Generously rooted & reflected in God’s Character
12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Edifying, Empowering and Ennobling one another
13. Fulfilling our Destiny with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ using our Grandmaster Key with a lifestyle of Repentance
14. Praying for unsaved family members, friends, colleagues, students, teachers . . . in God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. Loving the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and even our enemies. (Matthew 5: 42-48; 22:36-40)
16. Testing of our faith, hope and love through God’s challenges in our daily walk. Repenting when we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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Job as a role model through difficult testing and his three statements of faith as a overcomer:

1. Job 13: 3 - I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God if he slays me.
2. Job 19 - I know my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lives.
3. Job 23: 10 - He knows and tests me, regardless of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I will come out like Gold.

Job \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to:

* blame God;
* remains guiltless and
* releases his grief and sorrow to God.

***2****“The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat,****3****so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice.****4****They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear,[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2023%3A2-7&version=ESV#fen-ESV-23920a)*] and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.****5****They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long,****6****and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues****7****and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2023%3A2-7&version=ESV#fen-ESV-23923b)*] by others.* **– Matthew 23: 2-7**

* Be patient and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Put others’ interests ahead of \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Check our motive to ensure to avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and covetousness
* Will not be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ easily (No short fuse & don’t be a Hot Head by controlling our temper)
* Think no \_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Keep no records of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or keep score (Commitment is 100 percent and not 50-50)
* Give others the Judgment of Charity (No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Forethought)
* Give others the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the doubt
* Rejoice in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Encourage one another toward Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Bear, endure, rely on God with Faith, Hope and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Love
* Do not envy/avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Do not Boast (so we will not be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ up and be proud)
* Do not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the spotlight
* Do not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to have our own way
* Do not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rudely.
* Act and conduct our transactions with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ manners (Courtly Etiquette = Courtesy)
* Rejoice in others’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ servanthood
* Always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

**WHAT IS GOD’S WILL FOR US? GOD = LOVE**

*1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children.*

 **- Ephesians 5;1**