

## Love One Another – Part 4

### Part 1

#### A. Let Love Be Our Example One to Another.

1. God's Love Is Better Than Valentine's Day.
2. 1 John 4:7-8 says, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God."
3. May God show His love to you in a very tangible way every day, in the Name of Jesus.
4. The Greek word "agape" is often translated "love" in the New Testament.
  - a. Agape love is different from other types of love: it means, goodwill, benevolence, and willful delight in the object of love.
  - b. Unlike our English word love, agape is not used in the New Testament to refer to "eros," which means "romantic or sexual love" in Greek.
  - c. Agape does not refer to "philia," which means "close friendship or brotherly love" in Greek.
  - d. Agape love involves faithfulness, commitment, and an act of the will. It is distinguished from the other types of love by its lofty moral nature and strong character.
  - e. Agape love is beautifully described in 1 Corinthians 13 (AMPC):
    - 1 If I [can] speak in the tongues of men and [even] of angels, but have not love (that reasoning, intentional, spiritual devotion such as is inspired by God's love for and in us), I am only a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
    - 2 And if I have prophetic powers (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), and understand all the secret truths and mysteries and possess all knowledge, and if I have [sufficient] faith so that I can remove mountains, but have not love (God's love in me) I am nothing (a useless nobody).
    - 3 Even if I dole out all that I have [to the poor in providing] food, and if I surrender my body to be burned or in order that I may glory, but have not love (God's love in me), I gain nothing.
    - 4 Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily.
    - 5 It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong].

6 It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.

7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].

8 Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth].

9 For our knowledge is fragmentary (incomplete and imperfect), and our prophecy (our teaching) is fragmentary (incomplete and imperfect).

10 But when the complete and perfect (total) comes, the incomplete and imperfect will vanish away (become antiquated, void, and superseded).

Colossians 3:14 says, “And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

## **Part 2**

### **B. Let Love Guide Your Life.**

1. Proverbs 4:23 says, “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.
2. When you hear the Word of God, your heart is either softened or hardened.
3. Your heart is softened to God by obedience to the Word.
  - a. Hebrews 4:2,6,7 says, 2 For indeed we have had the glad tidings [Gospel of God] proclaimed to us...but the message they heard did not benefit them, because it was not mixed with faith (with the leaning of the entire personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness) by those who heard it; neither were they united in faith with the ones [Joshua and Caleb] who heard (did believe). 6 Seeing then that the promise remains over [from past times] for some to enter that rest, and that those who formerly were given the good news about it and the opportunity, failed to appropriate it and did not enter because of disobedience...7 Today, if you would hear His voice and when you hear it, do not harden your hearts.

### Part 3

#### C. Let the Great Commandment of Love Lead You.

1. Matthew 22:37-39 says, “37 Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”
2. You can’t love if there’s no trust.
3. Demons, devils, and evil spirits can bombard one’s mind to make one not trust others who are trustworthy. It is an evil scheme to divide and conquer.
4. Trust comes from the heart since we love God from our heart.
5. To love yourself, you must give up guilt, condemnation and self-hatred.
6. If you can’t love your neighbor as you love yourself, how can you love your God who you can’t see, when you can’t love your neighbor who you can see.
7. James 3:16 says, “For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work” (KJV)
8. Hebrews 6:12 says, “Imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”
9. Pray to get rid of guilt, condemnation and self-hatred.
10. Unforgiveness of others or of ourselves blocks all of our prayers.

### Part 4

#### D. Let Your Love Walk be in the Unity of the Spirit.

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 says, “Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”
2. Psalm 25:9 (AMPC) says, “He leads the humble in what is right, and the humble He teaches His way.”
3. Ephesians 4:31 says, “Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.”
4. 1 Peter 4:8 (AMPC) says, “Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins [forgives and disregards the offenses of others].”
5. **Prayer: Heavenly Father, in the Name of Jesus, according to Galatians 5:22-23, help each of us to love one another better with God’s agape love, forgive promptly, and forget offenses; and to walk in a greater degree in the Fruit of the Spirit of God’s love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, humility, and self-control.**