

LOVE OTHERS

Select Passages • March 21, 2010 • Mike Newman, Senior Pastor

March 14, 2010..... "Love God"
March 21, 2010..... "Love Others"

GREATEST
commandment. life.

Matthew 22:34-40 (NLT) ³⁴But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. ³⁵One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: ³⁶"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" ³⁷Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹A second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ⁴⁰The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Romans 13:8-10 (NLT) ⁸Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law. ⁹For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet." These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

John 13:34-35 (NLT) ³⁴So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

1 John 4:20-21 (NLT) ²⁰If someone says, "I love God," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? ²¹And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their Christian brothers and sisters.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT) ⁴Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Romans 12:13-20 (NLT) ¹³When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all! ¹⁷Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honor-

As you read through the Bible, it is clear that the command to love your neighbor as yourself is a really big deal to God.

Three Reasons Loving Others Is A Big Deal:

- 1) The Bible says that many of the _____ in the Bible are based on this one command.
 - See Romans 13:8-10
- 2) The Bible says that our love for others is what _____ as followers of Jesus Christ.
 - See John 13:34-35
- 3) The Bible says that if you don't love others, you can't fulfill the _____ to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
 - See 1 John 4:20-21

Four Biblical Truths:

- 1) Biblical love is an _____ and not simply a feeling.
 - See 1 John 3:18, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, Romans 12:13-20

Three Different Greek Words We Translate "Love" In English:

- _____ - Sexual Love
- _____ - Brotherly Love
- _____ - Godly, Unconditional, Sacrificial Love that is demonstrated through actions

able. ¹⁸Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. ¹⁹Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD. ²⁰Instead, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads."

John 13:34-35 (NLT) ³⁴So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

John 15:12-17 (NLT) ¹²This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. ¹⁶You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

Matthew 5:43-48 (NLT) ⁴³"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! ⁴⁵In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. ⁴⁶If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. ⁴⁷If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. ⁴⁸But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

1 John 4:9-11 (NLT) ⁹God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. ¹⁰This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.

You can biblically love someone without liking them or having affectionate feelings toward them.

Loving others as yourself is something you do more than it is something you feel.

2) We are to love others the same way _____

- See John 13:34-35 and John 15:12-17

3) God expects us to show love to _____

- See Luke 10:25-37 and Matthew 5:43-48

4) We should love others _____ to God's love for us.

- See 1 John 4:9-11

The key to loving others is to do it for God and not focus on whether they deserve it or not.

What do you need to do in response to today's message?

For more information about what it means to become a follower of Christ or what to do after you make a decision to follow Jesus, speak to one of the pastors or elders following the service today (they can be found by the prayer room in the church lobby) or contact the church office at 717-762-7147 to set up an appointment. You may also request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey on our website:

www.otterbeinchurch.org