

CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR

Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10 As believers, we are commanded by Jesus to “let our light shine” and to be recognized as His workman that will glorify God and make Christ real to others.

James 1:22; 2:17, 26 James teaches Christians that we deceive ourselves if all we do is listen to the word of God and do not practice and work out the lessons learned by putting our faith in motion.

John 15:8; Galatians 5:22-23 The behavior we are to display is shown by the actions we take to produce the spiritual fruit that God teaches us in the scriptures; fruits of other believers and fruits of the Spirit which produce the personality and qualities that are reflected from God toward us.

Ephesians 5:1-2; I John 4:8 The greatest and most desirable attribute that believers need to have that glorifies God is the characteristic of love. God is to be our greatest example and “He is love.”

LOVE BY FAITH

Mark 12:30-31 Love is the hallmark of being all that Christ wants us to be. We are to love God above all, this is the easy part. However, our tendencies is to love those who love us back and to look down on people whose lifestyles are not up to our standards or do not meet our expectations.

Galatians 5:16, 22 We are commanded to love those who are unlovable because that's what Jesus taught us through His example. We are to love people who have wronged us, we are to love people that are unpopular, we are to love people who rub us the wrong way and disagree with our views.

James 2:16-17 Instead of waiting to love others that we desire to love God wants and demands that we exercise faith and act in love towards others like we know how God would act towards them.

Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 11:6 God is still working on us as we journey through this life and if we want to please Him with our walk we must put our faith in action and show His great love to all people.

LOVE PEOPLE WE DON'T LIKE

Luke 6:32-35 There is no scriptural reference that commands us to like everybody, but we are commanded to love even those we do not agree with or people for whom we do not have good feelings

John 3:16; Romans 5:8 The kind of love it takes to love our enemies is the same kind of love God has for us; 'Agape love'. Only God can give us this kind of love for others and it manifests itself in an action towards others. Agape love says, “I love you in spite of the fact you are my enemy.” Agape love is a love without respect of persons. God loves all people even though He does not get love in return.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

John 13:34-35 Just before His arrest, trial and crucifixion, Jesus spent one last evening with those He loved. He used the time to comfort and instruct them. This command is given special importance because Jesus told them that by showing love for one another that would identify them with Christ.

I Corinthians 13:1-13 In speaking directly to believers Paul warns us that we cannot think that because we are theologically correct in all we do and think that we are right in God's eye. Without doing everything in love we are just being phoney and are “sounding brass and tickling symbols.”

The actions of love toward one another are as follows: Patience, Humility, Kindness, Unselfish, Not jealous, Good manners, Steadfast, Respectful. These are the qualities that we are to exhibit towards each other as fellow believers and brothers and sisters in Christ.

I Corinthians 12:1-26 Paul tells us that God has put each one of us in the church body and if we all do our part, together the 'body' will function as it is suppose to function. No one part of the body is to “think more highly of themselves” or to take advantage of another part of the body. We are to love each other and support each other as Christ loves and supports each one of us.