



fruit of the spirit:
Love

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What's on the Menu?

Picture this: You're getting ready for school in the morning. You are standing in front of the mirror preparing for the day ahead. You take a shower (hopefully), comb your hair, get dressed, brush your teeth, eat breakfast and so on. We take time each day to take care of ourselves. We go through all sorts of things before we walk out the door to make sure we are cared for. Basically, we love ourselves. What does this have to do with this lesson? Well, we are going to be talking about love. But not just any love, we are talking about our love for others and how we show it. You see God wants us to love and treat others better than we treat ourselves. He wants us to care and sacrifice for those around us. If we love those around us as we love ourselves, and we care for ourselves as much as we do, then just think of all that we SHOULD and COULD be doing for others. If we love like God wants us to, only then can we learn and understand how great God's love is for us.

Check out **Galatians 5:22-23** and List "the Fruit of the Spirit"

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

What is the first thing listed in **Galatians 5:22-23**?

Appetizer:

1. What does the word "love" mean?
2. Look up the word LOVE in the dictionary.
3. Do you think that God has a different definition for love?
4. On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being great) how do you treat others?
5. Tell your group of a time you had to treat someone else good and you failed to do so.
6. Why do you think it's important to treat others better than yourself?

Main Course:

If we truly desire to be followers of Jesus, then we need to learn how to love others. In the Bible, Jesus tells us that love is not only expressed by showing respect; it is also expressed through self-sacrifice and servanthood. In fact, love can be defined as just that . . . "selfless giving". Take a look at the following passages and what the Bible has to say about love.



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1. Read **Philippians 2:1-11**.

- According to this passage, what do you think love looks like?
- In verses 3 & 4, what are some ways we can show love?
- In verse 5, what kind of attitude should we have?
- Take a look at verses 6-11. What has Jesus done to model love for us?

2. Check out **1 Corinthians 13:1-7**.

- List four things verses 1-3 talk about?
- Do our lives have worth if we don't show love?
- Look at verses 4-7. What does this passage say LOVE IS?
- What does it say LOVE ISN'T?
- After reading this passage, what comes to mind when it comes to loving others?

3. Read **Matthew 5:43-44**.

- Who does this passage say we need to show love to?
- If have been wronged by an enemy, what should we do?
- Do you think it is easy to do what this passage says? Why or why not?



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4. Check out **1 John 2:3-11**.

- According to verse 3, how can we be sure that we belong to Him?
- What do verses 4-6 say?
- In verse 7, what is the “old rule” or commandment?
- What does verse 8 say happens if we obey that commandment?
- According to verses 9-10, what is the difference between the man who likes and the man who dislikes?



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Something to Chew On:

1. Look below and list ways you can show love in these areas.

- School (friends, teachers & strangers)
- Home (parents, siblings & neighbors)
- Church (your pastors, your leaders, & other students in the group)
- Small Group (other members of your small group)

2. Describe an area in your life where showing love to others is difficult.

3. How do you think people would react to you if you became a more loving person?

4. If you died tomorrow, how would you want people to remember you—"mean" or "loving"?

God's love for us is amazing!! He loves us so much that He gave His only Son for us. Now that's love!!!
What better motivation could we get to show love to others?

Prayer Requests:



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Taking it "To Go"

Memory Verse

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35).

How can I apply this lesson to my life?

What is one thing I will commit to the Lord this week?

The "To Go" Box

1. Is there a promise for me to claim?
2. Is there a command for me to obey?
3. Is there a sin for me to confess?
4. Is there a lesson for me to learn?

Questions about this study I need answered...

