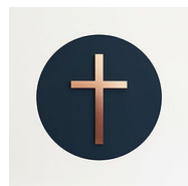




A quiet moment with Scripture



What Does the Bible Say About Love?

Free Printable Christian PDF

Love is more than a feeling or a kind gesture. In the Bible, love is a way of seeing and serving others, rooted in God's own faithful care. These passages invite us to receive that love and let it shape the ordinary choices we make each day.

A love that takes shape

Scripture speaks of love as patient, courageous, truthful and generous. It reaches beyond affection for those who are easy to love, calling us to honour our neighbours, care for those in need and forgive as we have been forgiven. This guide gathers seven passages to help us notice what biblical love looks like and practise it with hope.

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SCRIPTURE AND LOVE

Love is patient, active and true

The Bible's picture of love is both tender and practical. These short excerpts are from the King James Version (KJV); read each in its wider passage and let the commentary guide your reflection.

1. Love begins with God

“God is love.” – 1 John 4:8 (KJV)

John points us first to God's character. Christian love is not simply a rule to keep; it is a response to the love God shows and shares.

2. Love is patient and kind

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind.” – 1 Corinthians 13:4 (KJV)

Paul describes love through its behaviour. Patience makes room for another person's process; kindness turns care into words and actions that help rather than diminish.

3. Love does not insist on its own way

“Seeketh not her own.” – 1 Corinthians 13:5 (KJV)

This is not a call to ignore healthy boundaries. It invites us to listen, consider another person's good and loosen our grip on always needing to win.

4. Love is sincere

“Let love be without dissimulation.” – Romans 12:9 (KJV)

Paul's word means love should be genuine, not a performance. Sincere care is honest and steady, willing to honour what is good and turn away from harm.

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LOVE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Practising love where we are

Biblical love becomes visible in small, repeated choices. It does not ask us to be perfect; it invites us to keep turning towards God and our neighbour with humility and care.

5. Love serves our neighbour

“By love serve one another.” – Galatians 5:13 (KJV)

Freedom in Christ is not self-centred; it makes room to serve. We can offer practical help, share our attention and treat each person as worthy of dignity.

6. Love reaches beyond our circle

“Love your enemies.” – Matthew 5:44 (KJV)

Jesus calls his followers to pray for those who oppose them and to resist returning harm for harm. This does not require remaining in danger; wise boundaries and seeking help can be part of loving care.

7. Love is shown in action

“Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” – 1 John 3:18 (KJV)

Love is more than a warm intention. It becomes a meal delivered, a truthful apology, a patient conversation or a generous choice made when nobody is watching.

Small ways to practise love

- Listen without planning your reply, and ask one thoughtful question.
- Offer practical help: share a meal, run an errand or check in on someone who may feel alone.
- Speak truth gently, and apologise clearly when your words or actions have hurt someone.
- Pray for someone difficult, while keeping appropriate boundaries and seeking support where needed.
- Give your time or resources in a way that respects the other person's dignity and needs.

Pause and reflect

Which quality in 1 Corinthians 13 would you most like God to grow in you? Who might need patient attention, practical help or an honest apology from you this week? What wise boundary could help love remain safe and truthful?

One loving next step

Choose one person and one specific act of care for the next seven days. Keep it simple and possible: send an encouraging message, make time to listen, bring practical help or pray faithfully. Afterward, notice what you learned about God's love and about the needs of your neighbour.

“Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.” – Colossians 3:14 (KJV)

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