

# What does God Want - From me ?

Compiled by Rachel Cory-Kuehl, November 28, 2012.  
Scripture is from New King James Version unless otherwise noted.

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

John 13:35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 15:12 "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Deuteronomy 6:5 "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." (NIV) *(See also Matthew 22:37.)*

John 14:15 [Jesus speaking] "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

John 14:23 "Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.' (NIV)

John 15:10 "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."

Deuteronomy 7:9 "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;"

Leviticus 19:18 "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (NIV) *(See also Matthew 22:39.)*

Leviticus 19:34 "The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the LORD your God." (NIV)

Matthew 5:44-46 "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? (NIV)

Mark 12:33 "And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." (NKJ)

## THE COMMANDMENTS ARE SUMMED UP IN THIS

Romans 13:9 [Paul speaking] "For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'You shall not covet,' and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Romans 13:10 "Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law."

*To say, "Keep the commandments" is the same as saying "Love one another."*

*To say, "Keep My commandments" is the same as saying "Love ME."*

## WITHOUT LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:1 "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing."

*Any talent or gift we might have - if not used with love - is useless, or even harmful.*

1 Corinthians 13 "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud, does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil, does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

## SO - HOW DO WE LOVE HIM?

John 21:15-17 “So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’

He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’

He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’”

## BUT WE ARE SELFISH BY NATURE. HOW CAN WE LOVE?

1 John 4:12 “If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.”

1 John 4:16 “God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.”

Romans 5:5 “and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (NRS)

Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love,”

Ephesians 3:17-19 “ . . . that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

## HE LOVES US

1 John 4:9 “In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

John 3:16 “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him might not perish, but have everlasting life.”

1 John 4:10 “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Romans 8:35 “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?”

Romans 8:38-39 “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

*All these are words on paper. HOW do we individuals experience the love of God?*

## LET'S GET PRACTICAL: HOW DO WE EXPERIENCE THE LOVE OF GOD?

*AND: assuming God made us in His image, how does HE experience our love for HIM?*

*“The Five Love Languages” by Gary Chapman*

### 1. QUALITY TIME:

*Did you ever think of the Sabbath as “quality time” spent with HIM?*

### 2. WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

*Thanks, praise, simple recognition, appreciation*

### 3. ACTS OF SERVICE

*Whatever your talent or gift - you can use it in HIS service.*

*I knew a woman once who told me that her only talent was buying nice clothes - and she WAS a fashionista. She looked great! I told her - why don't you teach women at the women's shelter how to look professional, so they can find a job. She did just that - and experienced the JOY of using her talent to help others.*

*Teaching IS an act of service.*

### 4. TOUCH

*Just a gentle hug can lift a person's spirits. My mother was a big touch person.*

### 5. GIFTS

*Food for the hungry. Surgery for the blind or disfigured.  
Money to take the gospel to the ignorant. Gifts for others are gifts for Him.*

Isaiah 63:9 “In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old.”

*Remember: When a human being is hurting - God is hurting.*

Matthew 25:40 “And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.”

## TOUGH LOVE

To love is to act with unselfish intent. What is “good” for the object of our love, does not always feel warm and comfortable and reassuring. The most difficult kind of love to “give” is tough love. To allow a child (or anyone who has not fully learned) to suffer painful consequences, resulting his choices - that is hard on a parent or teacher, assuming he feels love or affection for the child (or learner). So often, the giver of such “love” feels the pain more acutely than the child. I invite you to consider how our Father in Heaven has administered a heavy dose of “tough love”.

Please see the study “[Tough Love](#)”.

*We pray this study will prove a blessing.  
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