



LOVE IS PREOCCUPIED WITH OTHERS

1 Corinthians 13:5b, *Love...is not preoccupied with self-interest.*

1 Corinthians 13:5b, *It does not insist on its own way. (ESV)*

1 Corinthians 13:5b, *Love...is not self-seeking. (NIV)*

✳ Literally - **Not Seek It's Own** | love does not selfishly demand for itself.

GOD'S LOVE IS NOT _____

Philippians 2:3-8, *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

✳ **Christ Jesus** | If we want to know more about what love looks like, then we have to look to Jesus.

✳ He **submitted** Himself in obedience to the Father.

✳ He emptied and **humbled** Himself to serve those who couldn't serve themselves.

✳ We are to have the **mind** of Christ - who doesn't insist on what He wants or deserves.

Philippians 2:8, *And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

✳ **Even Death on a Cross** | He was rejected, falsely accused, beaten, nailed to a cross as a criminal - He could have insisted for something better...

Matthew 26:53, *Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?*

LOVE _____ TO GOD

✳ **Loving God means** I submit to His ways and recognize His proper place as King of kings and King of my heart. This is manifest in our relationship with Him by:

TRUSTING HIS WAYS:

Isaiah 55:8-9, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

- ✳ To grow in our love for God means that we spend less time trying to get our way, and more time trusting Him.

TURNING FROM SIN:

2Timothy 2:22-24a, *So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone...*

- ✳ Loving God means I consider what His will is for me based on His desires and determination - not what the flesh desires.

LOVE _____ FOR OTHERS

1Corinthians 8:13, *Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.*

1Corinthians 10:23-24, *"All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.*

1Corinthians 10:32-33, *Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.*

1Corinthians 12:7, *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

1Corinthians 14:26, *When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.*

1. STARTS WITH GOD

Ephesians 3:14-19, *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

2. LOOK TO SERVE

1Peter 4:9-10, *Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

1John 3:16-18, *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.*

3. JESUS AT CENTER OF RELATIONSHIPS

Philippians 2:3-4, *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*