

True Love
Valentines Day
1 JOHN 3:16-23



Canned Love, Card Love, Candy Love...

True Love 1 JOHN 3:16-23

Love is full of _____ . v. 16

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.

- Love starts with a person—Jesus Christ.
- Love is received and experienced.
- Love is often expressed through sacrifice.
- Love is expressed in actions toward or on behalf of another.
- Love encourages love.

Love is marked by _____ . v. 17

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

- Love compels one to compassion.

- Love confirms our relationship with God.

- Love is the authenticating mark of the Christian.
JOHN 13:34-35

Love is _____, not simply _____.
vs. 18-20

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything.

1 JOHN 3:19-20 (NLT)

- Love is action.
- Loving actions produce confidence.

Love is a _____ vs. 21-23

Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

Overall, the most distinctive thing about Christian love is that it is commanded. Not urged, not encouraged, not striven for as a goal, but commanded"

Love has a source—Jesus Christ. How to become a loving Christian

Many people believe they are Christians because they were born in a Christian culture, go to church regularly, try to do their best, or live a good life. However, the Bible teaches that these things cannot make you a Christian. You become a Christian by simply taking these two steps:

- Acknowledge that you (along with all people) have sinned and fallen short of God's standards.
(ROMANS 3:23)
- Personally believe that Jesus Christ, who was God in human flesh, died for your sins on the cross and rose again.
(1 CORINTHIANS 15:3, 4)

You may express your belief through prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving Him as God's gift to you.
(JOHN 1:12, ROMANS 6:23, REVELATION 3:20)

"For it is by grace you have been saved through faith ...it is the gift of God; not by works, so that no one can boast." EPHESIANS 2:8,9