

Love 1Corinthians 13

There are three Greek words translated love in the N. T.

Thelo - "to will, to wish, to desire" - like or desire - **Mark 12:38**

Phileo - "to love, tender affection, cherish" - love of emotion or affection; never used in a command to love God: **Song of Solomon; John 20:2**

Agapao - "benevolence, charity, seeks goodwill toward the loved, prompts action" love of devotion; a love that can be developed by command - **1Corinthians 13; 2Peter 1:5-8**

It does not have to have love in return for love; It is not drawn out by the excellence of its object; It leads the way by loving the unlovable

We Are Commanded To Develop This Love

2Peter 1:5-8

Scripture can define itself best.

This kind of love is described by Paul as "a more excellent way" - **1Corinthians 12:31**

1Corinthians 13

(1-3) *Our work and service is worth nothing if not prompted by love*

(4-7) *Such love looks outward rather than inward.*

Wellbeing of others sought. Better to suffer loss than lose another.

Removes greed, jealousy, hatred, racism, covetousness, selfishness, arrogance, competition.

Focus on helping, growing, encouraging, supporting, enduring.

(8-13) *Love endures all*

Time nor distance can stop it. The closer we are to our brethren and the Lord the greater our love will be. One day our faith will be sight, our hope will be gained, and love will remain.

God Expressed Such Love To Us

Sacrifice of Jesus is ultimate example of such love. - **John 15:13; Romans 5:6-8**

It is His example that teaches us that we can 'love' the unlovable, we can love even our enemies. -

Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:18-21

God Commands Such Love Of Us

Do I love God?

Then I will serve Him for love prompts me to seek to please Him. - **John 14:15**

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