



stand & LOVE FIRM well

**How to be Faithful to God and Genuinely Love Others
When Engaging Culture that is at Odds with Faith in Jesus**

Part 2

**Partners with God in His
Perfect, Supernatural Love for
All of Humanity**

1 John 4:7

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:8

**Whoever does not love does not
know God, because God is love.**

1 John 4:9

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

1 John 4:10

**This is love: not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son
as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

1 John 4:11

Dear friends, since God so loved
us, we also ought to love one
another.

1 John 4:12

No one has ever seen God; but if we
love one another, God lives in us
and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:13

This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

1 John 4:14

**And we have seen and testify that
the Father has sent his Son to be
the Savior of the world.**

1 John 4:15

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus
is the Son of God, God lives in them
and they in God.

1 John 4:16

And so we know and rely on the
love God has for us. God is love.
Whoever lives in love lives in God,
and God in them.

1 John 4:17

This is how love is made complete
among us so that we will have
confidence on the day of judgment:
In this world we are like Jesus.

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:20

Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

1 John 4:21

**And he has given us this command:
Anyone who loves God must also
love their brother and sister.**

Matthew 5:43

**You have heard that it was said,
'Love your neighbor and
hate your enemy.'**

Matthew 5:44

**But I tell you, love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute
you, that you may be children of
your Father in heaven.**

Matthew 5:45

**He causes his sun to rise on the evil
and the good, and sends rain on
the righteous and the unrighteous.**

Matthew 5:46

If you love those who love you,
what reward will you get? Are not
even the tax collectors doing that?

Matthew 5:47

And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

Matthew 5:48

**Be perfect, therefore, as your
heavenly Father is perfect.**



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Principle #1

Any attempt to define the term love without an objective grounding in the living and holy God and His Word, is simply a twisted manifestation of severely limited human minds and spirits.

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What “Love” Is Not

- **It is not a narrowly defined list of actions.**
- **It is not being someone’s slave, doormat, or punching bag.**
- **It is not an obligation one carries out with a cold soul.**

What “Love” Is Not

- **It is not self serving.**
- **It is not strictly an emotion.**
- **It is not strictly an action.**
- **It is not something that should only be understood by your actions, without ever saying it.**

What “Love” Is Not

- It is not something that expresses itself cruelly.
- It is not something that is genuine simply because one says the words.

What “Love” Is Not

- **It is not something that you will always feel joyous about.**
- **It is has never been and will never be properly defined by Hollywood.**
- **Is not subject to the changing winds of human understanding.**

Attributes of God's Love



1 Corinthians 13:4

Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud.

1 Corinthians 13:5

Love does not dishonor others,
it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:6

Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.

1 Corinthians 13:7

Love always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:8a

Love never fails.

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Principle #2

The LORD God commands you to love every type of human being on the planet that you are in relationship with, regardless of whether they deserve it and regardless of how you feel about it.

Principle #3

**You can not give away what
you do not have.**

Unless you have had a profound encounter with God's supernatural love for you and unless you are constantly and consistently experiencing and receiving it, it will be impossible for you to genuinely love others with God's love.

God's perfect love meets our deepest needs and it is meant to touch every aspect of our being. If we allow God to fill us up with the power of His love, we then become empowered and enabled to love others with His supernatural love.

Principle #3

**You cannot give away what
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Principle #4

Choosing to share God's perfect, selfless, supernatural love with our enemies is one of the most tangible evidences of a mature Christian faith.

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Principle #5

God's perfect supernatural love is not given according to the worthiness of the receiver, it is given according to the character of the Giver.

Principle #6

One day, God will judge the world and everyone in it. But until then, His perfect, supernatural love is meant to be generously poured out on the world as a part of His common grace.



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