



- Romans 5:1-11



- Generally, we love love stories.
 - Often we idealize the love ... everything ends up perfect.
- It's not a wrong thing to do.
 - Sometimes it's unrealistic ... ignores struggles, negative emotions.
- Love is hard work.
 - Paul's letter to the Romans reminds us how we must continue to love, using the example of Jesus' love for us,
- Can a saint have an "happily ever after"?
- Can a church?
- Romans 5:1-11



Love Abundantly

God's love has been poured into our hearts through
the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5:5

- Romans 5:1-11 (ESV)
- 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because **God's love has been poured into our hearts** through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
- God's love is never given by measure.



Love Abundantly

God's love has been poured into our hearts through
the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5:5

- God is love, so there is plenty for each of us.
 - When God provided water in the wilderness for the grumbling Israelites... it was an abundance!
 - Ephesians 2:4 (ESV) 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of **the great love** with which he loved us,
- We must learn to be unreserved in loving others.
 - Too often we hold back (been hurt in the past, afraid)
- We have been given abundant love, let us resolve to love abundantly.
 - Good Samaritan ... kept giving



Love Everyone

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:7-8

- Romans 5:7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- Often struggle with this passage, vital to understand God's love: don't skip it.



Love Everyone

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:7-8

- A righteous person is one who always does just as they should and no more.
 - They are not really endearing to us, because they are very strict about what should and should not be done.
 - Follow the rules very precisely, sometimes annoyingly.
 - Often use this sense of “righteousness” to only what is necessary yet feel justified.



Love Everyone

**For one will scarcely die for a righteous person —
though perhaps for a good person one would dare
even to die — but God shows his love for us in that
while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

Romans 5:7-8

- A good person is one who always excels in their actions.
 - Endearing because we know that they extraordinary.
 - They don't limit themselves, rather choosing to give willingly, freely.
- If put in a situation where it was possible to save the life of one or the other, we might choose to die for the good person.



Love Everyone

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Romans 5:7-8

- The contrast is that Jesus did die for us.
 - But we were not righteous, nor good.
 - We are sinners! (also weak, ungodly and enemies)
- Jesus didn't love us because we were good, nor righteous; he loves us even though we are "unworthy".
 - Jesus died for everyone, to save everyone, because he loves everyone.

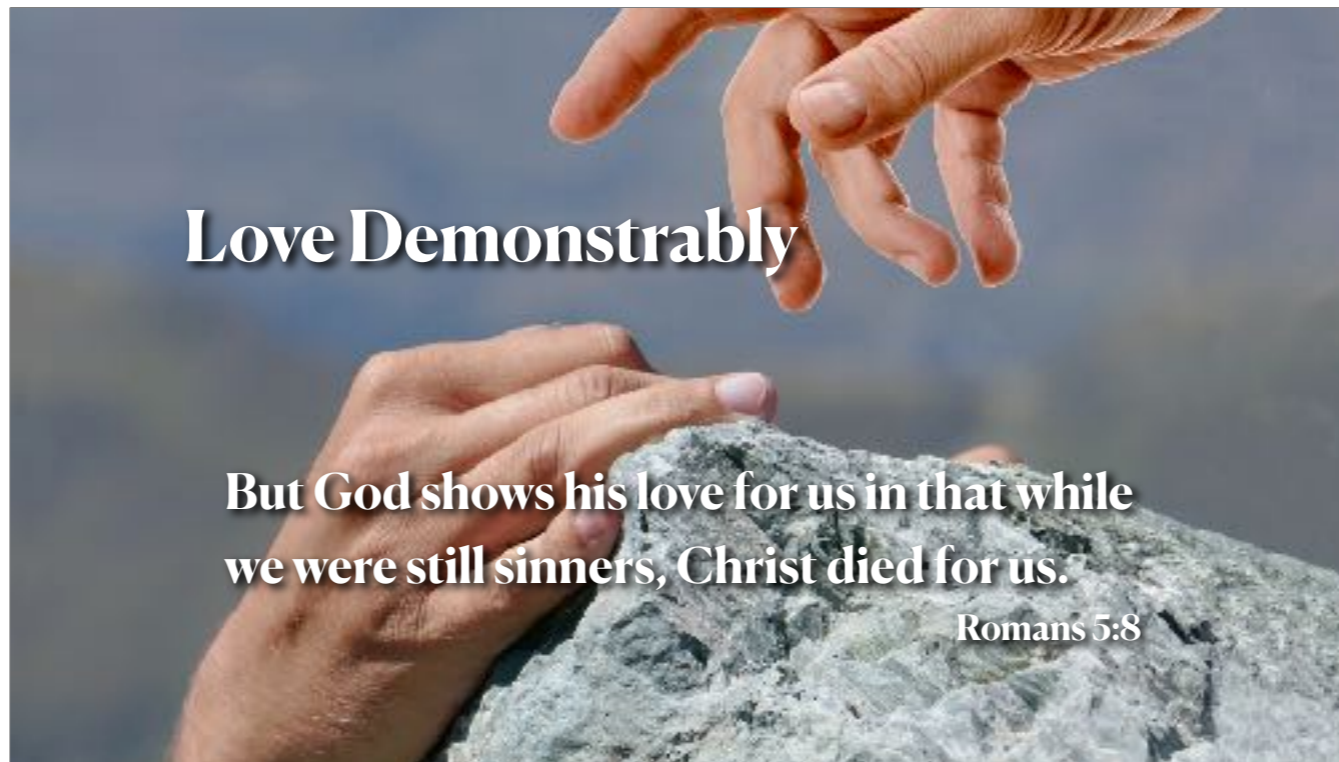


Love Everyone

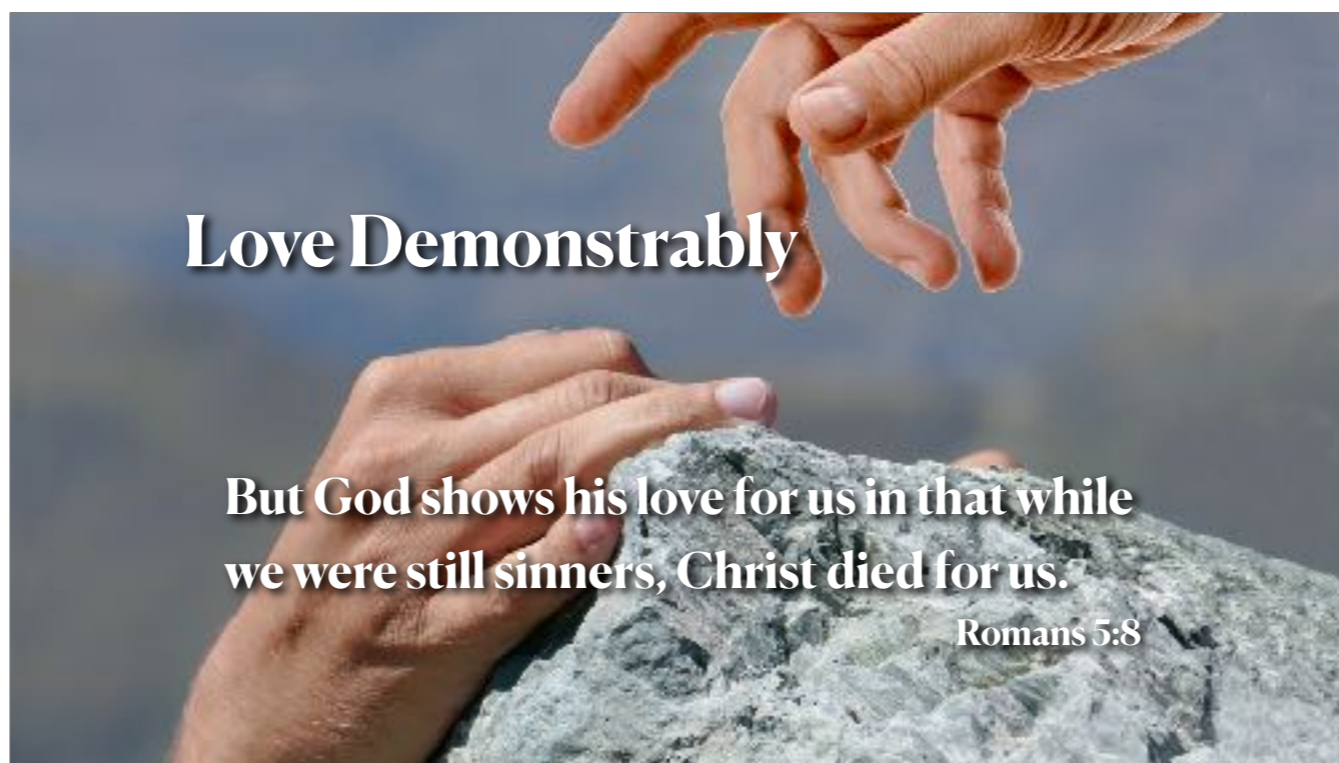
For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:7-8

- We must learn to love everyone.
 - Not just those we like, or agree with.
 - Not just those we consider worthy of our love.
 - Especially those who are “unworthy” of our love: enemies, etc.
 - This is a rare quality ... yet should be a defining trait of those who follow Jesus.
 - Don't allow prejudices based on social status, nationality, economic status to keep you from loving like Jesus loves.



- Romans 5:8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
 - God showed his love by his actions.
 - His love is shown in giving, giving whole heartedly and without reserve.
 - He didn't just talk about love, he did it.



- 1 John 3:16-18 (ESV) 16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.
- Demonstrate your love by doing sacrificial things for others;
 - but maybe start by just doing some little things that require your time, attention.
- Real love is shown in our actions, sacrificially helping others



- Romans 5:11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.
 - Salvation: justified (9), saved (9,10), and reconciled!
 - This is only possible because of God's love.
 - Correct response is to rejoice!
- Don't let love for others become drudgery, or bitterness.
 - Show love.
 - Give them a reason to rejoice.



Love Purposefully

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28

- Romans 8:26-39 (ESV)
- 28 And we know that for **those who love God** all things work together for good,
 - for those who are called according to his purpose.
- 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be **conformed to the image of his Son**
 - 30 And those whom he predestined he also **called**,
 - and those whom he called he also **justified**,
 - and those whom he justified he also **glorified**.



- 31 What then shall we say to these things?
 - If God is for us, who can be against us?
 - 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?



- 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?
 - It is God who justifies.
 - 34 Who is to condemn?
 - Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.



- 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
 - Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?
 - 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."



- Those who interpret this passage to mean that nothing bad will ever happen to a Christian have missed the point.
 - Or that whatever bad happens will eventually turn good (in this life). (death of a child?)
 - Bad things happen: charges against us, condemn, tribulation, persecution, danger, sword, etc.: kill all day long!
 - These bad things will not stop God from accomplishing his purpose for us: to be glorified!

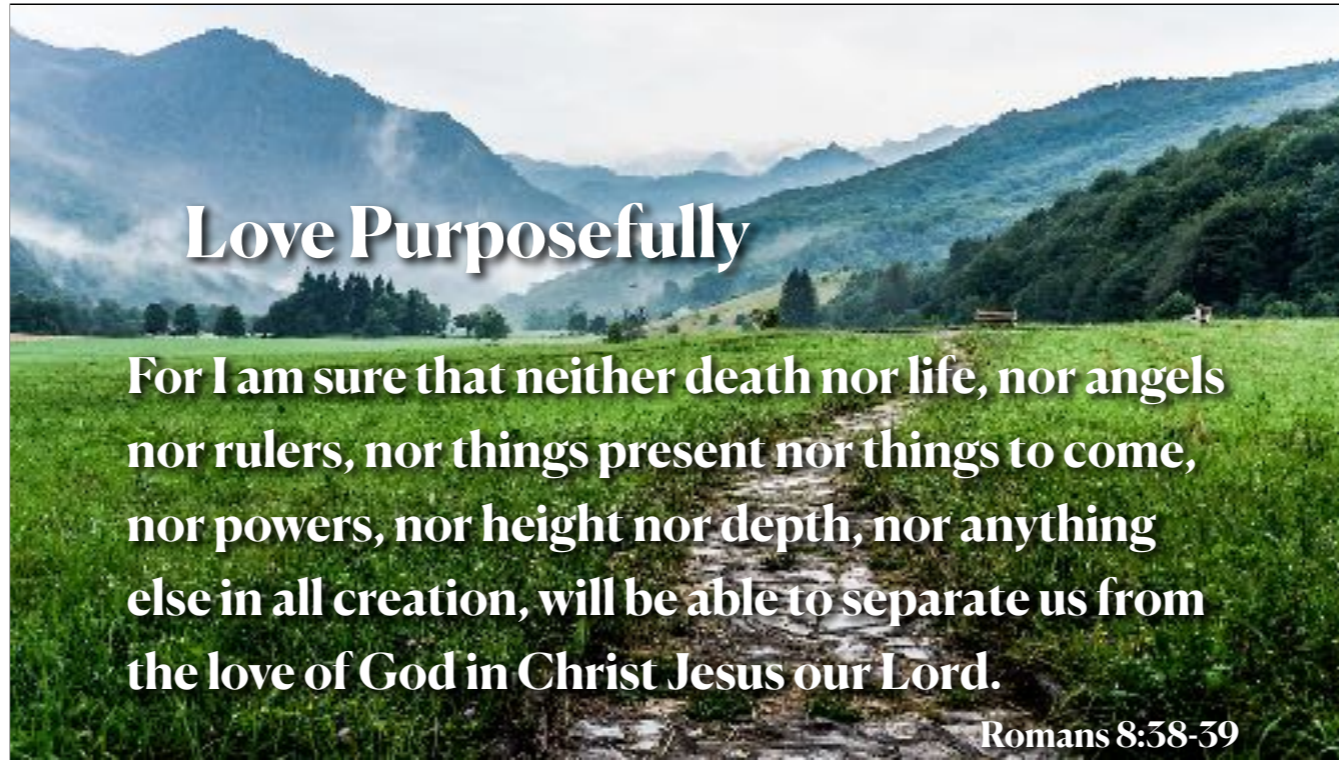


Love Purposefully

No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through Him who loved us.

Romans 8:37

- 37 No, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him who loved us.



- 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Love others and don't let anything separate you.
 - Don't make excuses.
 - Love with a purpose that looks to eternity.
 - Save souls.



Love Genuinely

Let love be genuine.
Romans 12:9

- Romans 12:9 Let love be genuine.
- No hypocrisy, no faking it.
- What would it mean if Jesus' love had not been genuine?

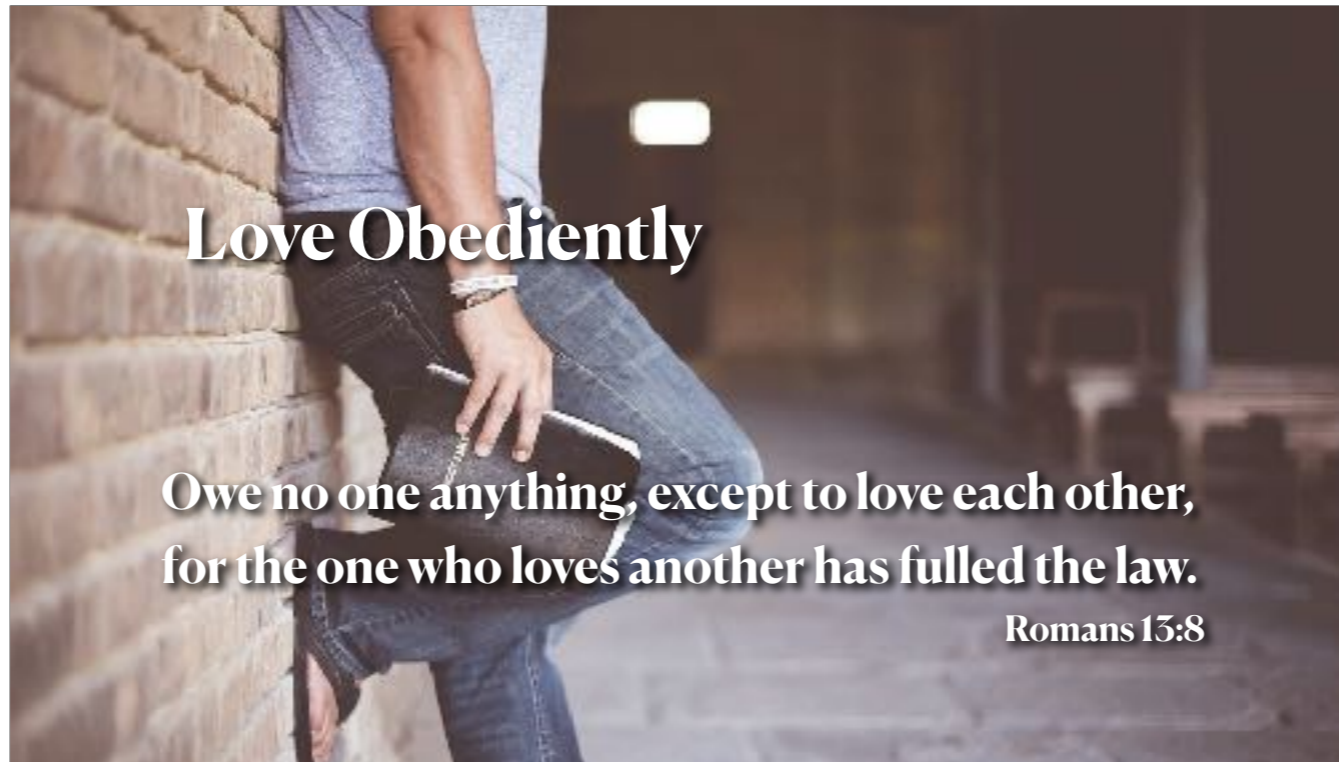


Love Genuinely

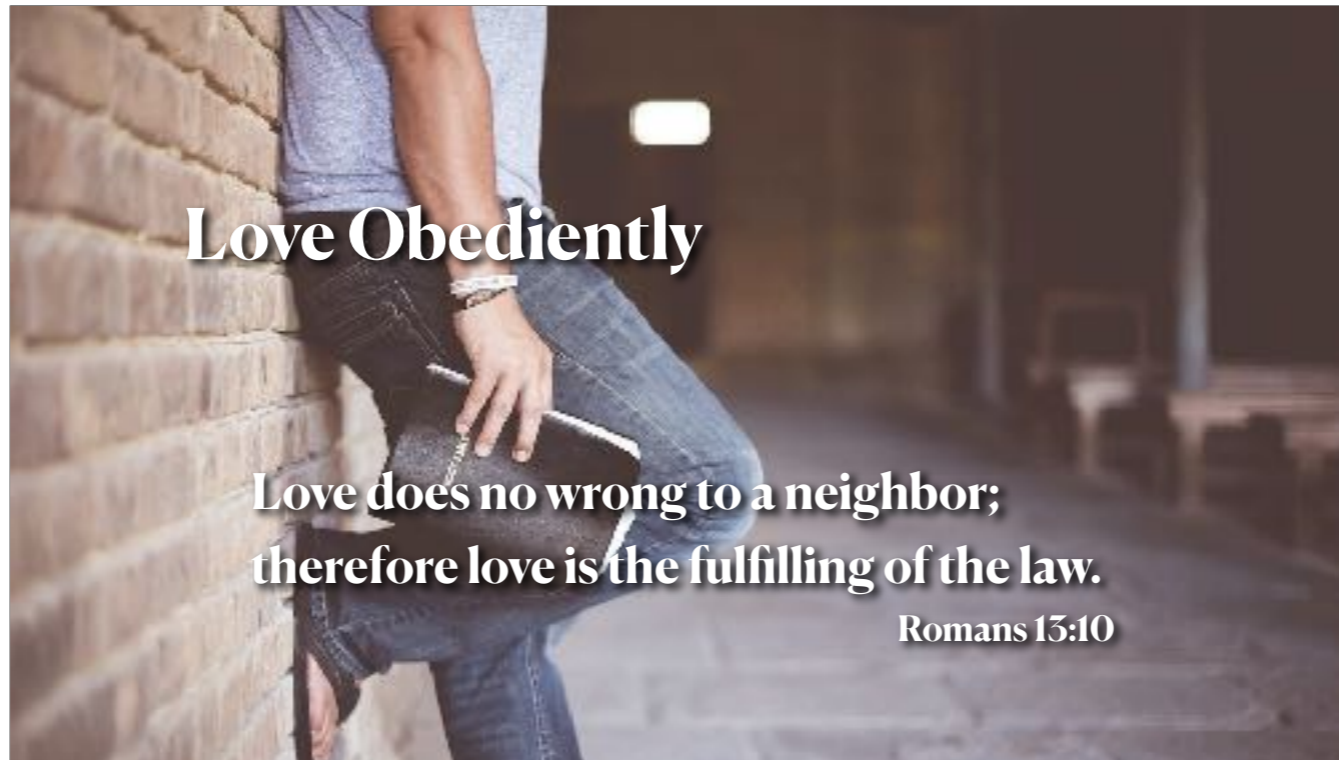
Love one another with brotherly affection.

Romans 12:10

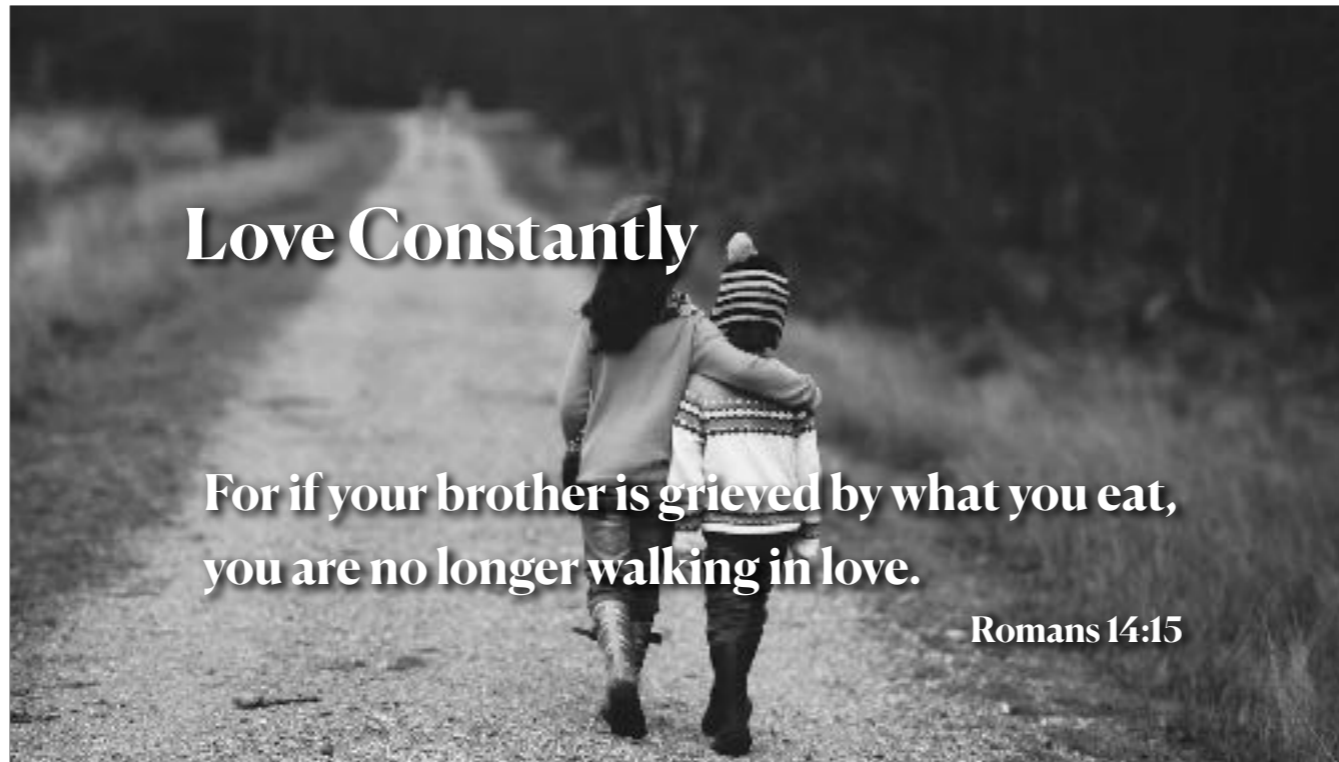
- Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection.
 - We are not strangers.
 - We are family.



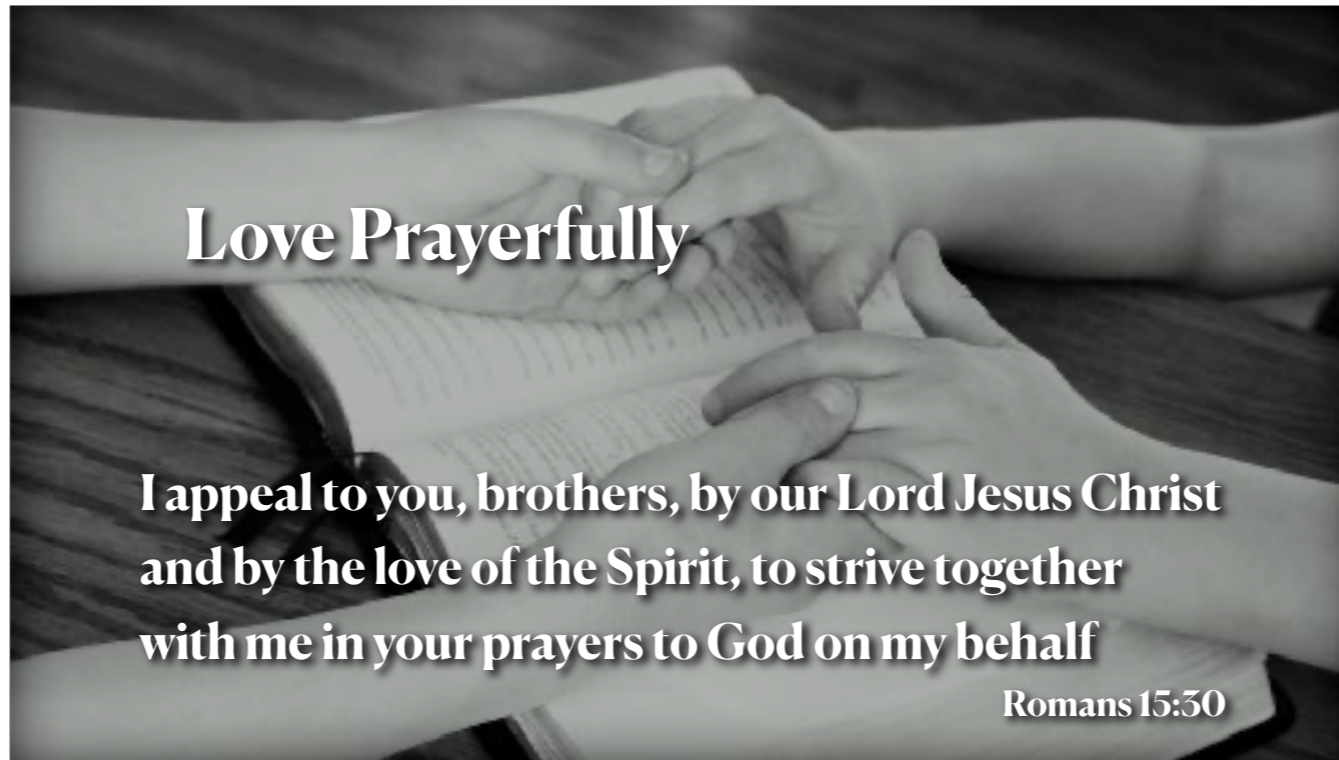
- 13:8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”



- 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.
- Love fulfills the law
 - The law was teaching us to be more like God: everything motivated by love.
 - Paul chose some obvious examples of love keeping us from harming a neighbor: murder, steal, covet
 - Satan and the world have so distorted what love is that we don't know love without knowing God and knowing His Word.
- To look like God, we owe it to one another to love as He loves.
 - Read and Do



- Romans 14:15 (ESV): For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died.
- Walking in love means that we continually, consistently love.
 - This is opposed to those who say “I have the right to _____.”
 - Walking in love means that I’m constantly thinking of what is best for others, not myself.
 - Instead of grieving by brother, I must bring joy to his life.

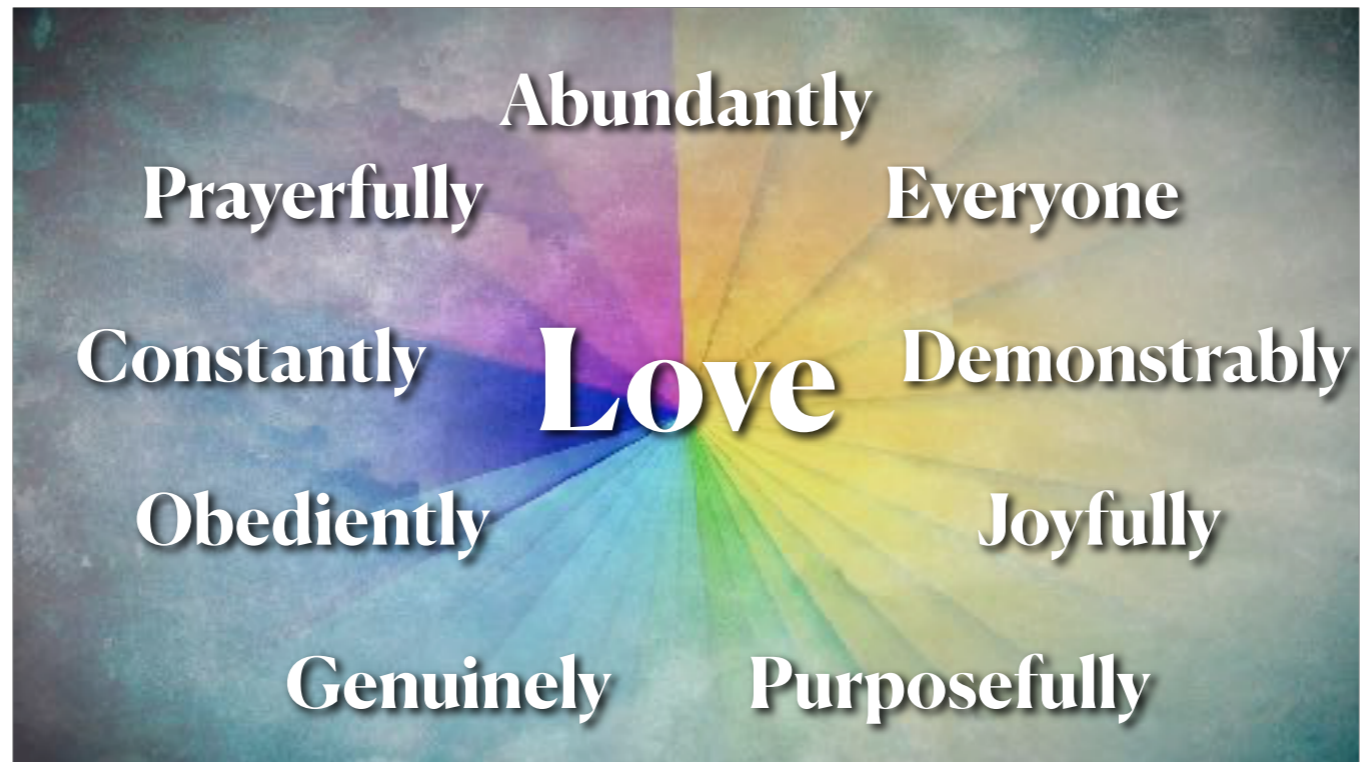


Love Prayerfully

**I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ
and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together
with me in your prayers to God on my behalf**

Romans 15:30

- Romans 15:30 (ESV) I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,
- Strive together in your prayers.
- Love prays
 - Not just in words (“I’ll pray for you”)
 - Makes time to offer up meaningful prayers for each other.



- Paul reminds us that love is important for each of us as disciples.
- It is not a simple thing.
- We must imitate the love of God
- Love leads us to doing hard things for the benefit of others.

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Faith, Hope, Love

#03

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Love

Romans

Synopsis: In Romans, Paul speaks of God's love and how we should love in eight very instructive ways. We are to love abundantly, everyone, demonstrably, joyfully, purposefully, genuinely, obediently, constantly, and prayerfully.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”