

# Love is showing others how much they matter to you.

## DAY 1

### Read 1 John 4:21, Nlrv

This month is all about love, which is showing others how much they matter to you. And today's verse makes it pretty clear that God wants us to love others so much that it's a command.

So, what is a command? A command is an order given by someone in charge.

#### Catch a Command

Did you catch the command given by God in today's verse? Circle the correct answer below.

1. Give all your money to God.
2. Pray nine times a day.
3. Love your brother and sister.

God gives a simple command to love others. But just because it's "simple" doesn't mean it's easy. It's hard to show love when someone acts difficult or rude towards you.

But we don't love others because of what they do. We love others because of who God is. God IS love. We can show God love by showing love to others.

## DAY 2

### Read Matthew 22:37-39, Nlrv

One of the religious leaders asked Jesus, "What is the most important commandment in the Law?"

Jesus answered simply.

The most important commandment is to love God. The next important one is to love others.

As followers of Jesus, we are to love God above all else, with every part of ourselves—heart, soul, and mind. But Jesus followed that command with another important one: Love your neighbor as yourself. Loving others as much as you love yourself is NOT something you can do on your own. We need God's help.

#### Pray for Your Neighbor

Think of a "neighbor" you see almost every day. Fill in the blank in the prayer below and then use it a guide as you talk to God.

*Dear God, thank You for making (Person's name). I know You love them. Help me to show love this week. Each time I think of myself, help me to think of them too. Thanks for loving me always. In Jesus's name I pray, amen.*

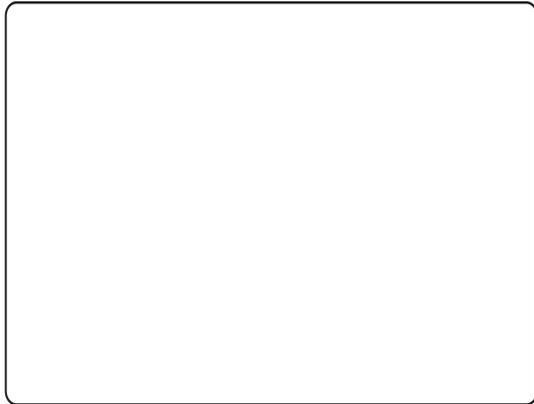
DAY 3

### Read 1 John 4:7-8, NIV

Love is **SHOWING** others how much they matter to you. Love requires action. The good news is, God can help us show love.

#### Love One Another

Find one person in your world that could use a little love and think of one way you could show love right now. Write down your plan or talk with someone to help you come up with a plan to show love.



Love God by loving others.

DAY 4

### Read 1 John 4:16, NIV

If you haven't figured it out by now, God loves you. No one will love you as much as God loves you. You can depend on God's love for you.

Have you ever stuck your water bottle under the tap to fill it up and been distracted by something happening around you? What happens if you take your eyes off the bottle? It overflows, right?

When you understand just how much God loves you, then you can share that love with others. When love is what goes in, love is what flows out!



#### Love In Love Out

1. Grab an index card or scrap of paper.
2. Write LILO ("Love In Love Out") in big block letters.
3. Tape it to the side of your water bottle.
4. Remember this week that God loves you and that big love should come out in how you treat others this week: because you love God by loving others.

