

**Lesson 2**

Bring Back some Brotherly Love

*Various Passages*

Love is grossly misunderstood. Some people, when they see Christian compassion, consider it weakness. Others believe that loves demonstrates no backbone. At other times, Christians are accused of not being loving enough. We don’t tolerate every lifestyle and accept all conduct as acceptable. Some will even say, “love is love” or “just be kind.” For many, love is an emotion. It’s not something you can control. You just have to follow your heart as your guide. Love doesn’t think, it just feels. Reserve your love for those who deserve it. Don’t love people who have done you wrong.

With all of this cultural clutter surrounding the topic of love, it’s no wonder that the Christian community is getting confused today. As we continue looking at New Testament “one another’s,” one of the main responsibilities that we have as Christians is to love one another. What does that mean? How does it look?

The Meaning of Christian Love

* ἀγάπη (*agape*)- Deep care for another that often leads to willing sacrifice (used 116 times in the NT)
* φιλέω (*phileo*)- Brotherly care or friendship love (used 25 times in the NT)
* στεργω (*stergo*)- Familial love (variations of the word are used 3 times in the NT)

The Motivations for Christian Love

* We love because we’re supposed to (John 13:34-35; 15:12, 14; 1 John 3:11, 4:20; 2 John 5-6).
* We love because we can (1 John 4:7).
* We love because it’s a fundamental part of God’s character (1 John 4:8, 18).
* We love because Christ modeled it (1 John 4:9).
* We love because we’re walking with God (1 John 4:16).
* We love because it brings purpose to life (Eph. 4:1-3).
* We love because it increases our witness (John 13:35).
* We love because it strengthens our church community (John 13:34-35; Rom. 12:10; Heb. 13:1; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 John 4:20).
* We love because it produces godliness (Rom. 13:9-10; 2 Pet. 1:7).

The Modes of Christian Love

* Love takes the initiative (1 John 4:10, 19).
* Love willingly sacrifices for others (John 15:13).
* Love leads to earthly obedience (John 15:14; Rom. 13:8).
* Love serves with joyful enthusiasm (1 Pet. 1:22a).
* Love has pure, genuine motives (1 Pet. 1:22b).
* Love comes from relationships of trust (1 Pet. 1:22).

The Maturity of Christian Love

* It keeps growing (1 Thes. 3:12; Phil. 1:9-11; Heb. 13:1).
* It marks maturity (1 John 4:17; 2 Pet. 1:7).

**Prayer**

**Scripture**: 4 Now Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: 5 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Single Focus/Cross Impact Requests:

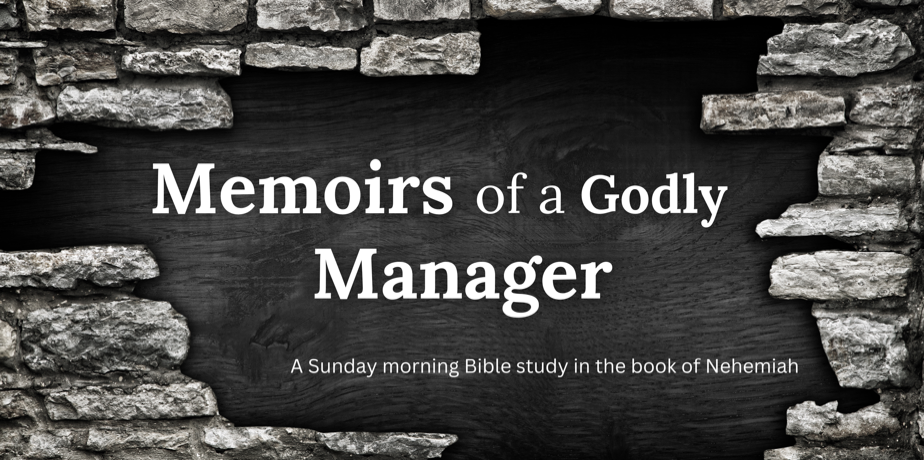
* Cross Impact IUPUI
* Single Focus
* Purdue Cross Impact Efforts at Purdue & UIndy
* Sunday Soul-Winning Efforts

Specific Requests:

* Dornbirers’ family grieving the loss of her dad
* Jack Elms, Kendall Elms, Jesiah Achenbach in military training/service
* Joseph LaPointe’s back and spirit
* Trevor’s need for community at Indiana State
* Jessica’s Unsaved friend in Mormonism
* Justin Ford’s family as they grieve
* McKenzie’s family as they grieve
* Zirkles as Ronda goes through cancer treatments

**Announcements:**

* July 2- SNF at Bub’s Burgers in Carmel
* July 7-8- Single Focus Campout
* July 16- SNF at the Ashley’s home
* July 30- SNF at the Wiley’s home



**Order of Service for tonight:**

* Opening Game: Grillmaster Trivia
* Announcements:
* Song: Oh How God it Is (on screen)
* Song: Relentless Love- p. 105
* Song: The Object of Your Love- p. 118
* Prayer:
  + New Requests:
  + Other Requests:
* Message: Andy