

# Attributes of Christian Love

**Romans 12:9-14**

## **We must be known for our loving relationships.**

*“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

**John 13:34-35**

***The distinguishing characteristic of Christian people  
should be that they genuinely care for each other.***

***Biblical love is a commitment of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
God would not command us to do something that we could not control.***

***Love is not a reaction to what another person does for me—  
It is first the giving of myself, a voluntary action toward another person.***

***Love is, “intelligent good will.”***

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her*  
**Ephesians 5:25**

[Jesus] ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’ **Mark 12:31**

*“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **Matthew 5:43-44***

***Love is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the relationship, not the root of it.***

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*  
**Romans 5:8**

## **Characteristics of Love**

**Found in Romans 12**

***Attributes to develop to be a loving person.***

**1. Love must be s \_\_\_\_\_.**

**2. Love has c \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.* **Romans 12:9b**

## **Messianic prophecy**

*for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.*

**Psalm 69:9**

*Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. **John 2:13-14***

## **Jesus' indignation, anger, and zeal for the worship in God's house**

*So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. **John 2:15***

*To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." **John 2:16-17***

*Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight. **Isaiah 5:20-21***

*The wicked freely strut about when what is vile is honored among men. **Psalm 12:8***

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. **John 10:10***

*"Sin is a monster of such awful mein that to be hated needs but to be seen but seen to oft familiar of face we first endure, then pity, then embrace." —Alexander Pope*

## **3. Love is d\_\_\_\_\_.**

*Be devoted to one another **Romans 12:10***

## **4. Love is s\_\_\_\_\_.**

*Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. **Romans 12:10b***

*The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. **Matthew 23:11-12***

## **5. Love retains its e\_\_\_\_\_.**

*Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. **Romans 12:11***

***The gospel is our only true comfort in this world of sin and death.***

## 6. Love is p\_\_\_\_\_.

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12*

## 7. Love is g\_\_\_\_\_.

*Share with God's people who are in need. Romans 12:13a*

*If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:17-18*

*All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. Acts 4:32-33*

*There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need. Acts 4:34-35*

## 8. Love practices h\_\_\_\_\_.

*Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13*

## 9. Love is f\_\_\_\_\_.

*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Romans 12:14*

*But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.' " Mark 16:7*

*"Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"*

*"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Mark 12:28-30*

*The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:31*

*Key: will, fruit, sincere, character, devoted, selfless, enthusiasm, pleasant, generous, hospitality, forgiving*