

Everlasting Love

God's Greatest Gift



Study Guide

*“I cannot do great things alone, but *God* will do great things through me.”*

Everlasting Love

God's Greatest Gift

Study Guide and Materials

Excerpts from the book

Scriptures

King James Bible

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Everlasting Love

The Father's Divine Love for You

Lessons of Love

*For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love,
which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered
to the saints, and do minister.* Hebrews 6:10

Table of Contents

Section I - <i>God</i> gives <u>Love</u>	9
Section II - <i>Christ</i> gives <u>Freedom</u>	14
Section III - <i>Holy Spirit</i> gives <u>Power</u>	19
Section IV - <i>Gifts of Love</i> is God's <u>Gifts</u> to You	24
Section V - <i>Love + One</i> is God and <u>You</u>	29
Section VI - <i>Scriptures of Love</i>	33

Biblical Love

There are 547 references in the Bible (KJV) to God's Love

Old Testament - 284 times

New Testament - 263 times

There are 4 types of love referenced in the Bible

Agape ~ a selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love, the highest of the four types of love

Storge ~ a family love, the bond among mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers

Philia ~ a close friendship or brotherly love, one for another

Eros ~ a physical, sensual love between a husband and wife

Jesus commanded to His disciples regarding Love

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. John 13:34

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. John 13:35

This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12

These things I command you, that you love one another. John 15:17

Trinity of God is for Man

*According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and without blame before him in love. Ephesians 4:1*

Section I ~ *God* gives Love

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is Love. 1 John 4:8

- 1 - God is Love
- 2 - God's Love is for His Children
- 3 - God's Love is Everlasting, Enduring, Eternal

Section II ~ *Christ* gives Freedom

*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified
freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*

Romans 3:23-24

- 1 - Christ frees us from sin, bondage, curses, disease
- 2 - Christ frees us from carnal law
- 3 - Christ frees us from the second death

Section III ~ *Holy Spirit* gives Power

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:13-14

- 1 - Holy Spirit gives us wisdom, knowledge, understanding, discernment
- 2 - Holy Spirit gives us Kingdom gifts
- 3 - Holy Spirit gives us supernatural power

Section IV ~ *Gifts*

- 1 - God gives good gifts
- 2 - Christ grants His authority to acquire gifts
- 3 - Holy Spirit provides the manifestation of gifts

For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Section V ~ *Love + One* = God + You

If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. John 4:12

- 1 - God teaches us how to Love
- 2 - Christ allows us to live in Love
- 3 - Holy Spirit provides because of Love

Section I



Trinity of God

Love

Part I ~ *God* is *Love*

Our heavenly Father is Love, and because of His Love,

we are made spirit beings from His Spirit in Love.

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:16

God is the Almighty, Most High, Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow; never changing, Creator of the heavens and earth, and all thereof. He is King of kings and Lord of lords. God is love, this is His nature. *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.* Psalm 90:2 God has always been.

His love is an agape love unconditional without boundaries, manipulations, or stipulations for it has no dimension. There is no measure of depth, width, or height, nor limitations. Such a love greatly surpasses our carnal ability to comprehend as our human instinct places conditions on this emotion.

There is nothing in existence that God did not create and before the heavens and earth, before Adam, and before we were in the womb yet born of flesh, we were with God. *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love; having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.* Ephesians 1:4-5 Because we come from God and He is Spirit, we are spirit of His Spirit.

1) God's love is pure and perfect

What has been the greatest expression of God's love in your life?

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

2) God's greatest commandment is to love Him and love one another

Is God first in your life above your spouse, children, family, and friends?

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. Mark 12:30-31

3) A love worth dying for

How strong is your love reflected in your relationships?

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

4) A life governed by love

Is all that you say and do a commitment of kindness and compassion?

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. Matthew 5:44

5) God's love cannot be earned

What do you believe you should do to express your love for God?

The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it. Proverbs 10:22

6) Begin each day with a prayer of thanksgiving

Do you communicate daily with your heavenly Father?

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4:24

7) Know God's love is plentiful and forever

How often do you rely on God, trusting Him explicitly?

The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him. Nahum 1:7

8) Trust in God's love for you

Do you believe God answers your prayers?

For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many rebound to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 4:15

Section II



Jesus Christ

Freedom

Part II ~ *Christ* gives Freedom

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Jesus is God manifested as the Son of God. He is the second of the trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Christ is the Living Word, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, the Good Shepherd, the Counselor, Light of the World, and the Prince of Peace. Jesus is Lord and Savior, Messiah, El Shaddai, King of kings and Lord of lords; Almighty, our mediator to the Father and our Redeemer from sin. *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.* 1 Timothy 2:5

Everything God created He spoke into existence, and as He spoke, Jesus was the Living Word fashioning the foundation of all creation. *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.* Ephesians 3:9 All things were created by Him and for Him. *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.* Colossians 1:16-17

When it was necessary for Christ to come down to earth to save man, the Living Word became flesh. *Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.* John 1:13-14 In accepting the relationship between the Father and the Son, we can see a picture that tells a story that has always been about man from the very beginning. *For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.* Ephesians 2:18

Sin separated man from God; however, Jesus reconciled man fulfilling the Father's plan that we be reunited with Him. *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.* 2 Corinthians 5:21 Jesus' main purpose wasn't to take away man's sins which occurs when we repent. Christ's objective was to reestablish man's relationship with the Father. The spiritual connection God had with His children, Adam and Eve, was severed in the Garden of Eden. Christ came to rectify and reconcile man to his heavenly Father. Jesus brings man full circle to the garden before sin.

- 1) Accepting Christ as the Son of God
Do you have Christ as your Savior?

And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. Col 1:20

- 2) In Christ you are given a rebirth
Are you living a new life in Christ?

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Ephesians 4:24

- 3) Understanding what Jesus did
Do you believe you are forgiven?

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. 1 John 4:13

But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. Romans 6:22

4) A daily walk with Christ

How has Christ changed your life?

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

5) A relational commitment in Christ

How do you live for Christ?

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

6) Trust in the Lord with all your might

What do you trust Christ for the most?

Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Mark 9:23

7) Salvation is for every believer

Do you believe you are saved through Jesus?

I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6

8) Coming face to face with Jesus

What would you say to Christ?

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as they soul prospereth. 3 John 1:2

Section III



The Holy Spirit

Power

Part III ~ *The Holy Spirit* gives Power

Now we have not received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 1 Corinthians 2:12

The Holy Spirit is the third in the trinity and is sent on the authority of Christ that each born-again person may have an intimate communion with the Father. He is our tutor, intercessor, and advocate before the Lord. We are virtually helpless to receive anything from the Kingdom without the Holy Spirit, for heavenly gifts and power come through the Spirit of Truth who is God. Jesus teaches: *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.* John 14:16-17 This is why Jesus told His disciples He must go, but would send a Comforter knowing the need man would have for the Holy Ghost. *Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.* 2 Corinthians 1:22 What Jesus spoke to His disciples remains effectual today. As Jesus is our Savior and mediator, the Holy Spirit is our intercessor and advocate within the Kingdom of Heaven. We can understand the trinity of God as Christ, and as the Holy Spirit, for His Kingdom purpose in reuniting man for a relationship with Himself as it once was with Adam.

The Holy Spirit knows what is in our heart and mind so when we pray, He submits our prayerful petitions in a proper format that is acceptable and appropriate to the principles of the Kingdom. Otherwise, our requests would appear as perhaps ramblings and garbled messages without a structured meaning. Because God knows our desires before we ask, our prayers should be sincere with an expected resolution. *And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.* Romans 8:27

To personally receive the Holy Spirit, we must first be reborn into the spirit person we were created, and we already know to do so with a repentance prayer. Christ comes into our life and God sends the Comforter. Think about what must transpire when we ask to be received, spiritually, into the Kingdom. It is an awesome occurrence and so joyous that surely angels must sing because another child has returned to the Father. *Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.* Luke 15:10

1) Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Have you received the baptism of the Holy Ghost?

I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Mark 1:8

Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. 2 Corinthians 1:22

2) Understanding God's plan for the Holy Spirit

Do you allow the Holy Spirit to teach you all things of God's Kingdom?

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them. Mark 4:11-12

3) Listening to the Holy Spirit

Can you hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you?

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Romans 8:27

4) The Holy Spirit will guide your life

Do you accept the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? Luke 11:13

5) Living by the fruits of the Spirit

Is your daily life equipped with fruitful manifestations?

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. James 1:17

6) Gifts of the Holy Spirit

What gifts have you requested from the Holy Spirit?

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 1 Corinthians 7:11

- 7) Operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit
When and how do you apply your gifts?

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. John 15:16

- 8) Receiving the empowerment of the Holy Spirit
Are you exercising supernatural power through the Holy Spirit?

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:13-14

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

Section IV



Gifts of Love

Fruits

Part IV ~ *Gifts of Love*

There are gifts from the holy trinity of God, the Father; Christ, the Son; and the Holy Ghost. The gifts of God are all encompassing and divided among Christ and the Holy Spirit. God's gifts are administrative in the function of His Kingdom. Christ's gifts are for the continuation of His ministry, and the Holy Spirit gifts provide supernatural power.

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

But the fruits of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22

Gifts of God - Administration

Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Miracles, Healing, Helps, Governments, Diversities of Tongues

Gifts of Christ - Ministry

Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers

Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Power

Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discerning of Spirits, Speaking in Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues

- 1) God gives His Children gifts and talents
Do you know what your gifts are?

Now concerning spiritual gifts brethren, I would not have you ignorant. 1 Corinthians 12:1

- 2) Ask and you shall receive
What gifts have you asked for?

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Luke 11:10

- 3) God knows which gifts are best for us
What gifts have you received?

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 1 Corinthians 12:7

4) Name your speciality

What gifts would you like to have?

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us. Romans 12:6

5) Gifts are directed by the Holy Spirit

How would you like to use your gifts?

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 1 Corinthians 12:27

6) Maturity to receive what we ask for

Have you asked for a special gift but didn't receive it?

But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 12:31

7) Applying your gifts

Have you learned how to use your gifts?

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12

8) Steward in the Kingdom

What has been the greatest satisfaction you have experienced in using a gift?

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:4

Section V



Love + One

You

Part V ~ *Love + One* = God + You

For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them!

Psalm 139:13-17

1 - God teaches us how to Love

God is love, and we learn how to love Him and one another through the example in His Son. Though His love is pure and perfect, an agape love, that surpasses our carnal ability to comprehend, it exemplifies how we are to express ourselves in love. Everything God created He made for man with love; therefore, we shouldn't forget how precious our Father's love remains for His children. Love is the foundation to all His creation.

2 - Christ allows us to live in Love

God came to earth, in Christ, to save man because of His everlasting love for His children. It is through the teachings of Jesus during His short time on earth that we learn of our heavenly Father, and all that He has within His Kingdom was established for man. His promises and gifts are to help us in our daily life on earth. Christ allows us to call upon His authority in the Kingdom to acquire what we need. Our needs were set forth in God's plan.

3 - The Holy Spirit provides because of Love

God manifests Himself as the Holy Spirit that we may have a communion with Him. It is the Holy Spirit who teaches all things of our Father, gives heavenly treasures and gifts, and protects and provides for us. Our prayers are answered through the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Ghost who has supernatural power to accomplish whatever we call upon our heavenly Father for.

The Challenge

Everything God created was an act of love, everything Christ did was an act of love, everything the Holy Spirit gives is an act of love, and everything we do must be done in love.

We must never forget that we are children of the Almighty King, joint-heirs in Christ in the Kingdom of Heaven. We are greater than the angels and so preciously loved by our Father. As we love our children, God loves us so much more. He has given generously in blessings, promises, gifts, and power to each of His children that we may live happy, healthy, and prosperous lives, today. This is the reason that He presents Himself in the trinity because each has a specific purpose in our life.

We fail to understand and accept our rightful place as a child of the King; however, once we grasp and accept how much we are truly loved, it will change you and how you conduct your life. Love is the most powerful of emotions and conquers everything we may face. Christ taught it often to His disciples, and love continues to be taught in His Word.

Love will turn your life around, for it repairs the soul, provides forgiveness, and generates hope. Truth is discovered in love, healing is manifested in love, miracles are witnessed because of God's love. We are responsible for understanding and exemplifying love.

Take charge of your life today, and let it begin with an acceptance and appreciation of God's love for you.

- 1) What is the greatest thing you have ever done to help someone else?

- 2) How did it make you feel at the time?

3) What would you like to do to be a good steward in God's Kingdom?

4) How would you accomplish it?

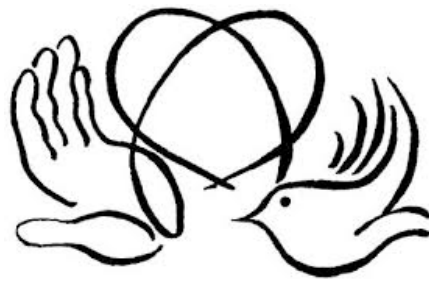
5) Would you do it alone, or seek others to become involved?

6) What has kept you from doing it?

7) What would motivate you to do it today?

8) Would you be willing to do it without reservations?

Section VI



Scriptures of Love

Scriptures of Love

Sampler...

Deuteronomy 6:5 - And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

1 John 4:7-16 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

1 Corinthians 16:14 - Let all your things be done with charity.

1 John 4:8 - He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Leviticus 19:18 - Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord.

1 John 4:19 - We love him, because he first loved us.

1 John 4:12 - No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Mark 12:30 - And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

1 Corinthians 13:13 - And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

1 Timothy 1:5 - Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned.

1 Peter 4:8 - And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

Philippians 1:9 - And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment.

Ephesians 4:32 - And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

1 John 4:21 - And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

John 15:12 - This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

1 Thessalonians 3:12 - And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you.

1 John 4:11 - Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

John 15:9-17 - As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

Galatians 5:14 - For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Romans 13:8-10 - Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

Philippians 2:2 - Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

John 13:34 - A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Hebrews 10:24 - And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

1 John 3:18 - My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:11 - For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

1 John 2:5 - But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Jude 1:21 - Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

James 2:8 - If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well.

James 1:12 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Revelation 2:4 - Nevertheless I have [somewhat] against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

Luke 10:27-30 - And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Ephesians 3:17-19 - That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love.

