

# HOW TO LOVE PEOPLE YOU DON'T LIKE

Get Real  
Part 1 of 7

**“Let us love one another, for love comes from God... Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love... And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.”**

1 John 4:7-8, 21

## I. WHAT IS LOVE?

Popular misconceptions:

• LOVE IS A FEELING

• LOVE IS UNCONTROLLABLE

### 1. LOVE IS A CHOICE.

**“And over all virtues, put on love which binds them all together...”**

Colossians 3:14

### 2. LOVE IS A CONDUCT.

**“Let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and truth.”**

1 John 3:18

## II. HOW TO LOVE SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE

### 1. Experience God's LOVE YOURSELF.

**“I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your heart, living within you as you trust Him. May your roots go deep into the soil of God's marvelous love, and may you be able to feel and understand... how long, wide, deep, and high His love really is, and experience this love for yourselves...”**

Ephesians 3:17-18 (LB)

### 2. Forgive others who have HURT YOU.

**“Forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”**

Colossians 3:13

### 3. Establish healthy BOUNDARIES.

**“Forgive us our trespasses...”**

Matthew 6:12 (Tyndale)

**“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free...”**

Galatians 5:1

**“But the fruit of the Spirit is...self-control.”**

Galatians 5:22-23

### 4. Think LOVING THOUGHTS.

**“Do you think you deserve credit for merely loving those who love you? Even the godless do that! And if you do good only to those who do you good—is that so wonderful? Even sinners do that much!”**

Luke 6:32-33 (LB)

### 5. Begin acting IN A LOVING WAY.

Jesus: **“LOVE your enemies, DO GOOD to those who hate you, BLESS those who curse you, PRAY FOR those who mistreat you.”**

Luke 6:27-28

Evaluate your love from 1 Cor. 13:4-8. Score yourself from 0-10 on each of the following.

0 means, “I need a lot of improvement.”

10 means, “I'm great at this.”

\_\_\_ I am patient

\_\_\_ I am kind

\_\_\_ I do not envy

\_\_\_ I do not boast

\_\_\_ I am not proud

\_\_\_ I am not rude

\_\_\_ I am not self-seeking

\_\_\_ I always protect

\_\_\_ I always hope

\_\_\_ I rejoice with the truth

\_\_\_ I always trust

\_\_\_ I always persevere

\_\_\_ My love never fails

\_\_\_ I am not easily angered

\_\_\_ I do not delight in evil

\_\_\_ I keep no record of wrongs

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All scripture from the New International Version unless otherwise noted