

## The Christian's Love Life

No. 86

### Introduction.

- I. **Years ago a young preacher and his wife had a dear little son named Robert.** They loved this precious little boy more than life itself. One day the little boy became sick and died. Some weeks later the young preacher came to the pulpit and brought with him some of the things which belonged to Robert. He brought a pair of little shoes and a little red wagon. He said to the congregation, "As we go through the house everything reminds us of Robert. We love these little shoes and this little wagon, not for themselves, but because Robert loved them." Then he made the application, stating that we ought to love the things which Jesus loved.
- II. If we love people we will be inclined to love the good things that they love. If we love Jesus, we will certainly love the things which He loved and give our lives to the things for which He died.
  - I. **Jesus Loved The Heavenly Father - So Should We** - Jesus loved the heavenly Father - so should we.
    - A. Oh, how Jesus loved Him! He loved Him before the world began. He loved Him when God said, "Let us make man in our image." He loved Him down through the ages. He loved Him when He left heaven and came into the world to die for lost men. He love Him in the garden of Gethsemane when He said, "Not my will but Thine be done." He loved God on the cross when He died to reconcile us to the Father.
    - B. **We should also love God.** We should love God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength. God has blessed us with every good and perfect gift and we should show our love for Him by devoting our lives to Him.
      1. We should also **verbally express** our love to God.
        - a. **Once a man had been married 42 years to a faithful wife.** She died suddenly and at the grave side, this man said to a friend, "You know I loved that little woman with all my heart and several times in our married life I almost told her so."
        - b. Sometimes this is true of us in relationship to God. We almost tell God we love Him. We often neglect to tell God we love Him and show it by our lives. Every day we should tell God we love Him through prayer and praise.
      2. We should show our love **by our actions.** (1 Jn. 2:3-5; 5:3).

**1JO 3:16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.**

**1JO 3:17 But whoever has the world's goods, and beholds his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?**

**1JO 3:18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.**

**1JO 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

**1JO 4:8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.**

**1JO 4:9 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.**

**1JO 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

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

**1JO 4:12 No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.**

**1JO 4:19 We love, because He first loved us.**

**1JO 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.**

**1JO 4:21 And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.**

## **II. Jesus Loved Prayer - So Should We - We loved prayer - so should we.**

### **A. Jesus was a man of prayer.**

1. He prayed from the cradle to the grave. I know that He must have prayed as a boy. He prayed at His baptism. He prayed during the forty days that He spent in the wilderness. He prayed as He performed His miracles and preached on the mountainside. He sometimes prayed all night. He prayed at the grave of Lazarus. He prayed with a broken heart in the garden of Gethsemane. He prayed on the cross when He was dying for you and me.
2. If Jesus, who was perfect, needed to pray, how much more do you and I who are sinful need to pray? If Jesus, who had all power, needed to pray, how much more do we who are weaklings need to pray?

### **B. Jesus loved prayer because of what prayer is.**

1. It is not a pep talk. It is not an exercise in futility. It is talking with God. It is conversation and communion between a human being and his heavenly Father.
2. Jesus also loved prayer because it has **tremendous power**.
  - a. God hears and answers our prayers. (Matt. 7:7-11; Eph. 3:20; 1 Jn. 5:14,15).
  - b. These scriptures assure that God answers our prayers if they are according to His will.
  - c. He will not grant us something that will be harmful to our spiritual well-being.
  - d. Someone has written these lines entitled "He Always Answers" that I would like to read.

<p>A little while He may defer  And hold the answer back;  But come it will, the answer sure -  Not one part will it lack.  And oft the answer does not come  In ways we're looking for,  For He would have us know that He  Has many an open door.</p> <p>Sometimes He answers right away  And proves His presence nigh,  And to our troubled spirit sends  His comfort from on high.  And then at times before we cry  His answer has begun;  Our every need is known to Him  Long ere our path is run.</p>	<p>Oh! What a God we have to trust -  A God of love and grace,  Who never will refuse the cry  Of those who seek His face!  Then may we oft, while here we wait  To meet Him in the air,  In earnest supplication spend  That hour, the hour of prayer.</p>
---	---

D. Once a **mortician** reported preparing an aged Christian for burial. He found the deceased Christian had callouses on his knees. He loved God and spent much time communing with God. When we have parted this life, may the mortician find callouses on our knees.

III. **Jesus Loved Souls - So Should We** - Jesus loved souls - so should we.

- A. Jesus came from the adoration of heaven to the agonies of earth because He had a great love for lost souls. He was cursed, beaten, mocked, spit upon and crucified that all men who trust Him will be saved from the fires of hell and have life everlasting with God.
- B. **An oculist opened his office in London**, but no patients came. He was very discouraged. Then one day he met a blind man. He looked into the eyes of the blind man and said, "I believe I can restore your sight. Come to my office in the morning." But the blind man said, "I haven't a penny in the world. I can't pay you anything." The doctor said, "Oh, yes, you can repay me, and I shall expect you to do so. Tell it to everybody. Telly every blind person that you meet that you once were blind and give them the name of the man who healed you."
- C. That's what Jesus wants us to do. He wants us to love souls as He did and He wants us to tell every sinner of His redeeming blood. (Mk. 16:15). We should not rest until every man, woman, and child has had the opportunity to hear the gospel at least 1 time.

IV. **Jesus Loved To Do Good To Others - So Should We** - Jesus loved to do good to others - so should we.

- A. Jesus spent His entire life doing good. He was more concerned with the needs of others than His own personal needs.
- B. **One cold November morning a judge rose early to catch a train**. At the railroad station a newspaper boy, barefooted, cold and shivering, came up and said, "Mister, buy a paper?" The judge said to him, "Son, what does your father do?" And the boy answered, "Papa is dead. Mother takes in washings. I help her morning and evening, before and after school, by selling papers. Would you like to buy one?" The judge was deeply moved and asked the boy how many papers he had left. The boy told him that he had sold all but eight. The judge ran his hand into his pocket, pulled out a fifty-cent piece and said, "Here son, I will take them all." The boy's eyes gleamed and danced. But to the judges's surprise, the boy didn't make a dash for home, but edged up closer to him. Then the judge

said, “Hadn’t you better run home, son, and warm your feet and get some breakfast and get ready for school? Aren’t you cold?” But the boy looked up into his face and said, “I was cold until I found you, but I am not cold now.” Oh, we should always stay busy warming people up with kindness. Let’s try to make life sweeter for others.

V. **Jesus Loved The Church - So Should We** - Jesus loved the church - so should we.

- A. Christ came to the earth to establish His church and He gave His life on the cross to save it. (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25).
- B. Christ loved the church more than His own life and we ought to have a strong, never-failing love for the church. There are various ways in which we can show our love for the church.
  - 1. In the first place, we can show our love for the church by **attending the worship services**. If we truly love Christ, we will want to worship the heavenly Father as He did.
  - 2. In the second place, we can show our love for the church by **praying for it**.
    - a. We should not miss a day thanking God for the church and praying that God will bless it. The church is not a community of perfect people. It is a community of sinners saved by the grace of God. It needs our prayers.
    - b. The church needs our prayers far more than our criticism. Prayer builds the church up - criticism pulls it down.
  - 3. In the third place, we can show our love for the church **by our service**. We should do everything possible to serve others that the church might grow and become a shining light in the community.
  - 4. In the fourth place, we can show our love for the church **by giving**. We should give sacrificially of our means that the church may reach the lost world with the gospel and help those who are in need.

**Conclusion.**

- I. Yes, we should love the heavenly Father, prayer, lost souls, doing good to others and the church because Jesus loved these things. May we devote our lives to the things Jesus loved.
- II. **Once a little baby girl put a large button in her mouth** and soon her mother heard a choking sound. She ran to the baby and found that the button had lodged in her windpipe. She called two doctors and they were there in a matter of minutes. As they began their work, the mother realized the child was choking to death. She cried out, “I will give you a thousand dollars if you will save her. I will give you five thousand dollars. I will give you ten thousand dollars if you will save my baby.” But the doctors sadly turned and whispered, “It’s too late.”
- III. Money cannot buy life, neither can money or character or good works buy eternal life. But Jesus who went to the cross and suffered for us, offers life free to everyone who will leave the darkness of sin and who will devote his life to Him. Come and put Christ on in baptism. Come as we sing.

"Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
© Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission." ([www.Lockman.org](http://www.Lockman.org))

