

Love Considers Others First

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Matthew 7:12 *So in everything, do to others*
Matthew 18:3 *Unless you change and...*
Matthew 25:40 *Whatever you did for one of*
John 15:12 *This is my commandment*
1 Corinthians 13:4 *Love is patient and kind*
1 John 4:8 *Whoever does not love*
James 1:19 *Everyone should be quick to listen*
Gen. 1:27 *God patterned people after Himself*

1 **1 Corinthians 13:4-5** NLT “*Love is patient and kind,*” and even though *Love is patient,* we often *miss* the point and *ignore* the lesson when faced with a delay.

2 We all want to *be* patient but do everything possible to *avoid* the lesson. When God’s Spirit is *resident* in our heart, *patience* is acted out in our life.

3 “*Love is kind*” is a reminder that a small act of kindness can have more of an impression on a person than anything else we could say or do for them.

4 Everyone just wants to be treated with a little kindness and consideration, so we should consider their *feelings* when speaking *with* them or *of* them.

5 “*Love believes the best*” means looking for the *good* in people and considering the situation

from *their* point of view—when hearing about an incident that took place.

6 Divine *love* always considers the *feelings* and the *reputation* of the *other* person—that is what we want them to do for *us*—if *we* are the topic of conversation.

7 Love places *our* wants in the *back* and the other person’s at the *front*. Love *finds* the time and *takes* the time to *care* and *share* when the opportunity is presented. It is how to be a *good Samaritan* and loving our neighbor.

8 “*Love does not boast*” **1 Corinthians 13:4** but acts from *humility* and *praises* God for anything we are able to do.

9 If we have boasted about some skill or ability, we must *repent* of the pride in our heart and thank God for what He enables us to accomplish.

10 Pride is a deadly sin that first showed itself in Eden when Adam and Eve were given a paradise environment, and they could have remained *in* paradise by just allowing God to be God, but it was the one thing they would not do.

11 They made the wrong choice to follow their own way, which resulted in being banished and separated from God.

12 Nothing can be done from *humility* until the first step of allowing God to take *pride out* of our heart.

13 Conceit and arrogance forget that everything we *know* or have *learned* or *possess* is from God and is on loan.

14 Everything we *have* and anything we can *do* comes from God and is to be used in a way that brings honor and glory to Him. *Love does not boast* but *thanks* God for the blessing and then shares it with others.

15 Self *craves* attention, but *humility stays* in the back. **Pride says I but humility says God.** The first step to victory is to first *admit* we have been proud.

16 God *can* deliver us from pride, if we will first *admit* we *have* been proud, *confess* that wrong, and then ask God to forgive us **1 John 1:9**.

17 If we acknowledge that we *need* help, God will help us. It is a change from what we *were* to what He wants us to *be*.

18 Jesus warned **Matthew 18:3**, “*Unless you change—you will never enter the kingdom.*” It is **not possible** to enter Paradise proudly!

19 Everything of this world is *temporary*, but everything of the next is *eternal*. What we give away, we keep. What we *give up* in this life, we *store up* for the next.

20 Even a cup of water given from right motives has eternal rewards. “*Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me*” **Matthew 25:40**.

21 “*Love thinks of others*” and will always consider the other person’s *feelings*—realizing that they could be facing a difficult situation—something that is not always obvious. We must put ourselves in *their* shoes before making hasty comments.

22 Love does not deliberately embarrass people, nor make them feel uncomfortable or self-conscious.

23 Those who embarrass others usually have few friends. No one *wants* to be embarrassed, so most people *avoid* those who cause it.

24 With divine *love* in our heart, we will think of the other person’s feelings and will not say anything that might embarrass them.

25 If we loved them, we would not want to make them feel uncomfortable. Love tries to make others be at ease.

26 If we cause others to feel embarrassed when they are around us, it would hinder any right relationship with them. They would *avoid* our company or move *away* when we approach.

27 If *this* is their reaction, it is because they do not *want* to be insulted. Those who feel

uncomfortable around us would hardly think we loved them.

28 To *abide* in Christ is to *live* by His words—
AV **John 15:12** “*This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*”

29 If we *abide* in Christ **NKJV 1 Corinthians 13:5** we do “*not behave rudely.*”

30 If we have the love of God in our heart, we would not *tear down* that which has taken a long time to *build*—a loving relationship with someone.

31 Being a witness for the Lord Jesus can be quickly destroyed by a thoughtless comment or cutting remark. Divine love does *not* offend others by unkind words.

32 No one wants to *be* embarrassed, so if we do that, we are *not* treating *others* as we want to be treated.

33 To make anyone feel uneasy when we are around them, is to violate the Golden Rule Jesus gave us to apply.

34 **NIV Matthew 7:12** “*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*”

35 Insulting someone or humiliating them shows a lack of respect for them.

36 And it reveals a lack of compassion for others. It is evidence that the sin nature is *still* in control of our words and attitudes—and *that* must be corrected.

37 Whatever excuse we have for treating someone in an ungodly way, the truth is that it would *not* be a witness for the love of God or the compassion of Christ.

38 We must always remind ourselves that a *kind act toward* someone, or a *kind word* to them, could be the only time they see the *love of God* in action.

39 **NIV 1 John 4:8** “*Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*”

40 *Loving* others means *not embarrassing* them—but will do everything possible to make them feel comfortable. We would *diffuse* any embarrassing situation someone might be in—and help them feel at ease.

41 We should never *use* words before asking ourselves, *Would my words wound*—and instead, *think* of how our words might make the other person feel.

42 In every conversation we have with others, it is always the right time to follow **NIV James 1:19** “*Everyone should be quick to listen [swift to hear AV], slow to speak and slow to [wrath] become angry.*”

43 The first chapter of the Bible opens with **NLT Genesis 1:27** “*God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself.*”

44 The *nature* of God and the *image* of God is seen when we show *love* to someone and consider them first.

45 We should never suppress the nature of God by using words that cause embarrassment. Divine love *builds*—not *destroys*!

46 Embarrassing someone sends a mixed message—it would have them say [quote], *If they loved me, they wouldn't embarrass me in front of my friends, would they? They think it's just kidding but I didn't take it that way and it didn't sound that way* [unquote].

47 We should think back if we have been the *cause* of embarrassment for someone. It is important to be honest with ourselves and to ask for God's help in being a loving friend.

48 Satan makes it easy to get in a habit of causing others to feel uncomfortable and excusing such behavior as joking, but often the ones we embarrass are the ones who most need love and support—*not* jokes.

49 We might tell *them* to *lighten up*, but we do not like to be on the receiving end of jokes and unkind remarks.

50 *Everyone* has a *choice*, and we can choose to *build up* or choose to *tear down*; we can choose to *help* or choose to *harm*; we can be like the *world* or be like the *Lord* in expressing our love and concern for others.

51 A main characteristic of love is that it will *always* feel *empathy* and *compassion* for someone who has made a mistake or has done something to embarrass themselves.

52 *Always* means to *constantly* be aware of the *feelings* of others when in their company—especially if there is potential for an embarrassing moment for someone.

53 Love is always ready to *help* and *assure* the other person of God's love for them and His forgiveness for any mistake they made. Having the love of God in our heart makes life much more enjoyable for everyone.

54 A loving relationship can easily be ruined by a thoughtless comment.

55 **NKJV 1 Corinthians 13:3** “*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.*”

56 The Golden Rule always *applies*, so we should always *apply* it when interacting with others. Jesus' words keep reminding us—**NKJV John 15:12** “*That you love one another as I have loved you.*”

57 With God's help, *that* is not difficult to do—because **NIV 1 Corinthians 13:4** “*Love is patient, love is kind.*” *Love always Considers Others First!*



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