



Read Galatians 5:14

DAY 1

What command is most important? To love your neighbor as you love yourself. In this verse, Paul isn't just talking about the neighbor next door or the kid sitting next to you at school. In this verse, a "neighbor" is anyone you meet.

A neighbor is someone who:

Looks like you

Looks nothing like you

Uses nice words

Says unkind things

Knows and follows Jesus

Doesn't believe in Jesus at all

We are to love all those neighbors because that's what Jesus did. Jesus healed people everyone else ignored. He welcomed children. He had dinner with a tax collector who'd stolen people's money. And guess what? When you follow Jesus, His Spirit lives in you. And He will help you love others—even the ones that are hard to love—just as He loves them.

Look around the house for some pictures of family and friends. Look at each picture and ask God to help you love that person like you love yourself this week.

Read 1 John 4:19-21

DAY 2

Think about the last time you got into an argument with your sibling or friend. Do you remember why you got so mad? Did you apologize to each other and work it out?

When it comes to love, how we love others is connected to how we love God. Why? Because we are loved by God. The first and most important thing you can know about God is that He is love. And because He loves you with a perfect love, a love that never changes or goes away, He wants us to share that love with the people around us.

Write in the words from the verse in the blanks below:

"We _____ because He _____ us first. Suppose someone claims to _____ God, but _____ a brother or sister. Then they are a liar. They don't _____ their brother or sister, whom they have _____. So they can't _____ God, whom they haven't _____. Here is the command God has given us. Anyone who _____ God must also _____ their brother or sister." 1 John 4:19-21 (NirV)

Ask God to help you show love to the people around you.

Read Genesis 1:27

DAY 3

You are made in the image of God. That means that of all the things God made, people are most like Him. You can think, communicate, and feel. You can tell right from wrong. But you aren't the only one made in God's image. Every single person you see, every person you meet, every person you will never meet who live in places you may never visit is made in the image of God. We should love others because they matter to God.

Have you ever looked closely at your own fingerprint? Use an inkpad to stamp some fingerprints on a piece of paper. If you don't have an inkpad, color your fingertip with a marker instead. Collect the fingerprints of your family members too. Now turn those fingerprints into drawings of people. You can make your fingerprint the body or head, add arms and legs, hair, eyes and a nose and mouth. Underneath your fingerprint people write "Love others because they matter to God."

Hold your fingerprint people drawing and thank God for creating people in His image. Ask Him to help you love others, knowing that they matter to Him.

Read 1 John 4:8

DAY 4

Did you notice that today's verse doesn't say "God loves?" Of course, it's true that God loves us. But there's fill in the blank with the one super important word stuck between "God" and "love" in this verse. "God ___love."

You cannot separate God and love. It's who He is.

That means that His response is always love. When you mess up, when you obey, when you win or when you fail, God is love. His love isn't based on what you do or don't do. And that's not just true for you, it's true of every single person He ever created. Because love comes from God.

Think about someone in your world that's been bugging you lately. Is it the kid that sits next to you in class, or your brother or sister? That person, the one who drives you crazy, matters to God. So today, thank God for loving you and the kid that bugs you. Ask God to help you love like He loves, even when it's hard.



**Love others
because they
matter to God.**

