

Imitate the Love of the Father

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Eph. 5:1 *Be imitators of God,
therefore, as dearly loved children*

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1. Love One Another

Eph. 5:2 *and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

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1. Love One Another

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

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1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

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1 John 4:7-8

- Those who are born of God love others

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1 John 4:7-8

- Knowing God means loving others

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Love One Another

Col. 3:14 *put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”*

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Love One Another

1 John 4:20 If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.

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Love One Another

1 John 4:21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

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Love One Another

- Means Loving Our Enemies

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Matt. 5:43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

Matt. 5:44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

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Matt. 5:45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

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Matt. 5:46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

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Matt. 5:47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

Matt. 5:48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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2. Be Holy

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1Pet. 1:15 *But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;*

1Pet. 1:16 *for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”*

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2. Be Holy

Eph. 1:4 *For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.*

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2. Be Holy

- Mind:

Matt. 5:28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

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2. Be Holy

- Heart:

Matt. 5:8 *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

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2. Be Holy

- Body:

1Cor. 6:18 *Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.*

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2. Be Holy

- Body:

1Cor. 6:19 *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*

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2. Be Holy

- Body:

1Cor. 6:20 *you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

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2. Be Holy

Eph. 4:24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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3. Be Fruitful

John 15:8 *This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples*

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3. Be Fruitful

John 15:4 *Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

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3. Be Fruitful

John 15:5 *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*”

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3. Be Fruitful

- Make Disciples

John 20:21 *Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

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3. Be Fruitful

- Make Disciples

Matt. 28:19 *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

Matt. 28:20 *and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

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- Three Keys to Making Disciples
 1. **Focus on being a disciple**

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- Three Keys to Making Disciples
 1. Love and share your life in Christ with someone else
 2. Love and share your life in Christ with someone else

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1Th. 2:8 We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us.

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- Three Keys to Making Disciples

3. Find someone to equip and coach you in discipling others

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3. Find someone to equip and coach you in discipling others

2Tim. 3:10 You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,

2Tim. 3:11 persecutions, sufferings—

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A Promise for Fruitfulness

John 15:16 *You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.*

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Conclusion

Eph. 5:1 *Be imitators of God, therefore,
as dearly loved children*

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Conclusion

1. Love Others, 1 Jn. 4:7-21
2. Be Holy, 1 Pet. 1:15,16
3. Be Fruitful, Jn. 15:4,5,8, 16

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Three Invitations:

- Understand the Father's Love
- Experience the Father's Love
- Imitate the Father's Love

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