

Love Keeps No Records!

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Everyone says they love Jesus, but ^{1 John 4:20} “*If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*” When we have the *love of God* in our heart—it shows around the home and everywhere else! *What’s in our heart* is seen by our family—where our true personality is revealed.

Having *Love in our heart* is a command of Scripture—^{Ephesians 5:1} “*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.*”

The definition—^{1 Corinthians 13:4} “*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.*” Even though *Love is patient*, we often miss the point and ignore the lesson when faced with a delay. We all *want* to be patient but do everything possible to *avoid* the lesson.

Love is kind—it is the small acts of thoughtfulness that have more of an impact than anything we could say in words. Everyone wants to be *treated* with kindness—but not always treating

others in that way. We should treat *everyone* with the same consideration that *we* want to be shown.

We are to respect the *feelings* of others—especially those right in our home. The Holy Spirit in our *heart* has us showing divine love in our *home*.

Love not only thinks about the *feelings* of others but thinks about their *reputation* as well. We always want others to think of us in that way—if *we* happen to be the topic of conversation.

Divine love places *our* wants in the *back* and the *other* person’s needs at the *front*. Love *takes* the time to be *kind* to everyone.

Love is not jealous, boastful, proud, or rude! Instead of being *envious* of someone’s blessing, we should be *glad* when God answers their prayer. Instead of being *jealous* of them, we should be thanking God *with* them.

Consider the multitude of blessings He has already given *us!* Making positive *comments* about others eliminates *slander*—we then know: *What’s in our heart!*

Divine love sees the *good* in people and ignores the *bad*. ^{1 John 3:11} “*For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.*” If we are not sure if there is love in our heart—^{1 John 3:16} “*By this we know love, because [Jesus] laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren*”—we can at least ignore the *bad* and focus on the *good* in others.

Not one thing can be done in *humility* until *pride* is removed. It is a *choice*—^{James 4:10} “*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord.*” Boasting is forgetting that everything we *know*; everything we can *do*; and everything we have *learned*—ultimately is from God and is on *loan* from Him. Whatever we know; Whatever we do—is to be used for *His* honor, glory, and praise—*never* ours.

Love does not boast—but thanks *God* for the blessing and *shares* it with others. Self *craves* attention—but humility stays in *back*. Pride says “*I*” but humility says “*God.*” Step #1 is *admitting* we have been *proud* and then ^{1 Peter 5:6} “*Humbling ourselves under the mighty hand of God.*”

Pride is a *sin*—and it must be dealt with immediately! Only *God* can deliver us from it ^{1 John 1:9}. To *confess* and *forsake*, is to be *forgiven* and *different*—*completely* different from the *pride* of the past to the *humility* of the present. *No one* will enter God’s kingdom, proudly—*no one!*

Everything of *this* world is *temporary* but everything of the *next* is *forever!* What we *give up*, we *place up* in Heaven! What we *discard*, we *keep!* What is *given up* here, we *store up* there in Heaven. Even a cup of water given from right motives of love in our heart has great rewards. ^{Matthew 25:40} “*Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*”

We take nothing *out* of this world, but we can send it *on ahead* by sharing it with others—*here* and *now* in this life! When love is in our heart, we consider the *feelings* of others. We feel sorry for them if they are going through a difficult time, and we do not add to their problems by talking about them. We will put *ourselves* in *their* position before making hasty comments we later regret.

We all act *natural* around the home, but it should be *natural* for us to treat everyone *in* the home and *outside* the home with kindness, love, and respect—always!

Love does *not* make people feel uncomfortable and no one wants to be embarrassed—that is why we go out of our way to *avoid* those who embarrass *us* and make *us* feel uncomfortable. With divine love in our heart, we think of the other person’s feelings and do *not* say things that *embarrass* them.

Those who feel uncomfortable around *us* think we do not love *them*. If divine love is in our heart, we would not want to tear *down that* which has taken so long to *build*—a loving relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We think at times that those who are embarrassed by what we say are *too sensitive*—as we try to avoid responsibility. Love in a relationship can be fragile and easily be destroyed by a hasty and thoughtless comment. 1 Corinthians 13:3 *“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.”*

If we make *anyone* feel uncomfortable we have *not* followed—Matthew 7:12 *“Do for others what you would like them to do for you”*—which is to make you feel *wanted, appreciated, and loved!* If we will treat our brothers and sisters as we want to be treated—it *“Is a summary of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.”* It answers—*What’s in your heart!*

Our *behavior* toward others is evidence of the *contents* of our heart. An act of *kindness* toward another is how that person *sees* the love of God in action. 1 John 4:8 *“He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”* When we *love* someone, we do *not* embarrass them, but will do everything possible to make them feel comfortable and at ease.

Satan makes it easy to use *words that wound* without thinking how those words might be taken. In every conversation, it is the *right time* to James 1:19 *“Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.”* Divine love *builds*—wrong attitudes *destroy*.

Our love for others can be *shattered* by one thoughtless remark. It can take *years* to *restore* that love and *rebuild* the relationship. When God has revealed the need for changes in us, we should

make them and asking for *His* help to be more considerate. We think the other person needs to *lighten up*—but we do *not* think that when *we* are on the *receiving* end.

Not many embarrass those who can embarrass *them* back—we are careful to *pick* our targets, unfortunately. Not many embarrass their *employer* or those they *love*. The decision to make someone feel uncomfortable is definitely a *wrong* choice that must be corrected!

With the love of Christ in our heart, we are empowered to make our brothers, sisters, coworkers, fellow believers, and anyone else feel comfortable in our presence by our words, and how we *treat* them. A self-test is what we *say* about others when they are absent.

Jesus always spoke the *truth in love* and did not embarrass those around Him. He made the lonely and forgotten feel important and valued. He only made those feel uncomfortable who *needed* a spiritual *lesson* in forgiveness, compassion, and love. John 8:7 *“He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.”*

Jesus called some *“Hypocrites!”* Matthew 23:27, because they *looked* religious *outwardly*, but had *no* divine love *inwardly*—they were full of self-importance and pride. Jesus said their hearts were full of *everything unclean*. They were offended by His words, but they were true statements.

Jesus always *encouraged* the *discouraged*; and always *helped* the *hurting* with words of *understanding, forgiveness, and hope*. He said to the woman Luke 8:48 *“Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.”*

If there is divine love in our heart, we will do anything possible to avoid embarrassing others—simply because we would want them to do *that* for *us*. Love *cares* enough to make others feel wanted, appreciated, and loved.

Instead of *embarrassing* someone we should put them at *ease*. With love in our heart, we *help* others—not *hurt* them. To *help* them is often just *listening* to them if they are going through a tough time or difficult situation. We can say: *I’ll pray with you about this. God is faithful and merciful and will give you His peace.*

If we do not know what to say, God will give us the *right* words at the *right* time—we just need to *ask* for His help. If we want to be a *light* for Christ and *salt* to preserve the Truth, we can start by making sure we have *love in our heart* toward everyone *in our life!*

In a world of hate, resentment, and bitterness toward others, *our light* can be a brilliant *beam* to someone who just needs to hear a kind word of encouragement. 1 John 4:7 *“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”*

Having love in our heart means having compassion for someone who made a mistake or embarrassed themselves. We should always be aware of their feelings when there is *potential* for embarrassment.

Love is always ready to *defend* others and will do everything possible to avoid adding to their troubles. 1 John 4:10 *“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. If we love one another, we ought also to love one another.”*

If we have true *love in our heart*, we will go the *second mile*; make the *extra effort*; or do the *right thing* so that someone else is *not hurt* or humiliated! 1 John 4:12 *“If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.”* Love keeps *no records* of wrongs!



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