

I AM HOPE

_____ How To _____ All _____, Pt. 1
1 Thess. 3:12; Selected Scriptures

By

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1 Corinthians 14:1a (NLT) - Let love be your highest goal!

1 Corinthians 16:14 (ESV) - Let all that you do be done in love.

1. You need to recognize you are _____ to _____ all _____.

1 Thessalonians 3:12 (NLT) - And may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow, just as our love for you overflows.

Love - agape –

1 John 4:8 (ESV) - Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:16 (NLT) - We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

A. Love your Christian _____ members.

1 John 3:14-15 (NLT) – If we love our Christian brothers and sisters, it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead. ¹⁵ Anyone who hates another brother or sister is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life within them.

1 John 4:19-21 (KJV) - We love him, because he first loved us. 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? ²¹ And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

B. Love your _____.

Matthew 5:43-44 (ESV) - You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Hate – miseō;

Enemy – echthros;

2. You need to realize _____ must be shown by your _____, not merely your _____.

1 John 3:18 (NLT) - Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

Romans 12:19-21 (ESV) - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

3. You are to show God's _____ to _____ people because God shows His love to all _____.

1 John 4:11-12 (NLT) - Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.¹² No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

Matthew 5:44-45 (ESV) - But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Luke 6:35-36 (NKJV) - But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.³⁶ Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

John 3:16 (NKJV) - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NLT) - Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong.¹⁴ And do everything with love.

Questions to Consider

1. Who is the most difficult person for you to love? Why?
2. What keeps you from loving people the way Jesus commands?
3. Why do you think the Bible differentiates between loving one another and loving all people?
4. Is it easy or difficult to love other Christians? Explain.
5. Is it easy or difficult to love all people? Explain.
6. Is it easier to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, or to love your neighbor as yourself? Explain.
7. What is the most challenging thing about loving others as God loves you? Explain.
8. How can you grow in the *quantity* of love you give to others? Explain.
9. How can you grow in the *quality* of love you give to others? Explain.
10. What are three things you will do this week to grow in the love you give to others?