



Love
is
the
imper
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four
faith

- 3) Through the death of His Son--Rom. 5:8.
- 4) By helping us through the hard times--Is. 63:7-10.
- 5) By being patient with us--I Cor. 13:4, e.g., love suffers long--II Pet. 3:9.

4. **The Scriptures:** I Cor. 13:4-8; Rom. 8:37-39; Eph. 3:16-19; I John 4:19; Jer. 31:3; I Cor. 13:8.

5. **The Application:** How does the love of Christ apply to us? I'll tell you how it applies to me.
- a. **Because God is love, I need not fear**--I Jn. 4:18.
 - b. **Because God loves me, I know I have a friend**--John 15:14-15.
 - c. **Because God loves me, I am moved to action**--II Cor. 5:13-15.
 - d. **Because God loves me, I want to see this church as a loving place**--II Cor. 5:14; I John 4:7-21, esp. v. 11.

6. **The Prayer.**

"Lord, I thank you for your love. You loved me before I loved you. It is your nature to love. Thank you for the confidence, the security I have because of that love. It has won my heart...I love you, Lord"--I John 4:8,10.



Application Questions and Assignments

As you think of the attributes we have studied, which ones are currently impacting your life the most? Why? What thoughts come to your mind when you think that God's justice demands you be rewarded for good deeds? Using #3 in the outline, discuss the various ways God shows His love to us. How does this impact you personally? Using #5 on this page to get you started, discuss how God's love will affect your life/actions.

GETTING TO KNOW GOD--PART 4

The
School
of
Discipleship



A STUDY OF THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

INTRODUCTION: When we show love to those who don't know Christ, they will get a picture of what God is like. That's our goal in our series *Getting to Know God*. An understanding and application of the attributes of God can have a dramatic effect, not only on us, but on all we might influence. Thus far we have studied five attributes: **A. God is Omnipresent, B. Omniscient, C. Omnipotent, D. Immutable, and E. Holy.**

F. GOD IS JUST.

1. **The Definition:** GOD WILL BE FAIR IN ALL HIS DEALINGS. **God will be fair in all His dealings.**
2. **The Scriptures:** Ps. 103:6; Prov. 16:11; Is. 45:21; Zeph. 3:5; Rom. 2:2; Ps. 147:17; I John 1:9. **His dealings**
3. **The Application:** How can we apply this to us?
 - a. **First, it gives me a peace.** Since I have repented of my sins, I know I will be judged--not according to my merits, but according to the righteousness of Christ--I Cor. 1:30; II Cor. 5:21.
 - b. **Second, knowing God is just means my works will be judged, even as a believer**--II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 3:10-15; Matt. 6:19-21.

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knowing God is just means must identify with justice regardless of the cost

c. **Third, knowing God is just gives me a healthy fear of God’s judgment for others who don’t know Him**--II Cor. 5:11; Rev. 20:11-15.

d. **Fourth, knowing God is just means I must identify with justice regardless of the cost.**

1) That means by His Spirit, I will have to show equity--II Cor. 7:11; Lev. 19:15; Mal. 2:9; I Tim. 5:21; James 2:4.

2) That means I may have to do what is necessary to stand against the propagation of sin.

3) That means I must respond redemptively by doing what I can--James 1:27; Ps. 82:3; Prov.21:3; 24:11-12; 31:4-5,8-9; Is. 56:1; Deut. 24:17.

e. **Fifth, knowing God is just means I don’t have to repay or seek revenge for the injustices done to me. God will repay in His time, in His way**--Rom. 12:14-21; Matt. 5:43-48; II Tim. 4:14; Rom. 14:19; Rom. 13; II Sam. 16:5-12; Gen. 50:19-21.

4. **The Prayer.** “Lord, I praise you for your righteousness and justice. You are totally fair and impartial with me. This helps me also to know that I must totally identify with justice regardless of the cost, because I know you are just. Thank you for that. It also helps me to know that because of your righteousness and justice, your Son died for my sin. Therefore, you are faithful and just to forgive me of all my sins and cleanse me from all unrighteousness --I John 1:9. That also frees me up to not have the responsibility to take revenge on my enemy, but love him instead. I’ll leave the repaying to you”--Rom. 12:19-20.

G. GOD IS LOVE.

1. The Definition.

a. God’s love is the seeking of our highest good.

b. God’s love is also unconditional. It is not an “I love you if...” or “I love you because of...” --Rom. 5:8; John 13:1-11.

c. God’s love is giving--John 3:16. It is active!

2. The Description of God’s love. Here are a few of the manifestations of love.

a. **First**, God’s love wills the good of all and never wills harm nor does evil to any--I John 4:18. **God’s love**

b. **Second**, God’s love tells us that He is friendly, and His Word assures us He is our friend--John 15:13-15; James 2:23. **take pleasure**

c. **Third**, God’s love also has an emotional identification. God has allowed His heart to be emotionally identified with man. Amazing! **in the object**

d. **Fourth**, God’s love takes pleasure in the object of His affection--Rev. 4:11; Eph. 1:5. **of His**

e. **Fifth**, God’s love is not inactive, it is active and creative toward individuals--I Cor. 13:7. **affection**

3. The Distinctives of God’s love.

a. **God’s love is misunderstood**--I John 4:16.

b. **God’s love is focused**--Matt. 3:17,35; John 14:31; 17:24; 3:16; Eph. 2:4; Deut. 7:6-8,13; Jer. 31:3; John 14:23; 16:27; I John 3:1; Ps. 11:7; Is. 61:8; Eph. 2:10; I John 4:7-10.

c. **God shows His love:**

1) When it rains and the sun shines--Matt. 5:43-48.

2) When He disciplines us--Heb. 12:5-6.