

IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE

40 Days of Love Rick Warren

"Let love be your greatest aim." 1 Corinthians 14:1 (TLB)

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second command is this: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' There are no commands more important than these." Mark 12:30-31 (NCV)

"Do everything with love." 1 Corinthians 16:14 (NLT)

THE BASICS OF LOVE

•	WE LOVE BECAUSE "Love comes from God for God is love." 1 John 4:7-8 (NLT)
	"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19 (NIV)
	"We know and rely on the love God has for us." 1 John 4:16 (NIV)
•	LOVE IS AAND A "You can make this choice by loving the LORD and committing yourself firmly to him." Deuteronomy 30:20 (NLT)
•	LOVE IS "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18 (NIV)
•	"Dear friends, <u>let us practice loving each other</u> , for love comes from God and those who are loving and kind show that they are the children of God, and that they are getting to know him better." 1 John 4:7 (TLB)
	"Practice these things and devote yourself to them, in order that your progress may be seen by all." 1 Timothy 4:15 (GNT)
•	LOVE IS "Keep on to loving each other as brothers and sisters." Hebrews 13:1 (NLT)
	Noop on to forming caon other as brothers and sisters. Thebrews 10.1 (NET)

"If you only love those who love you, what credit is that to you?" Luke 6:32 (NIV)

"Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it." 2 Corinthians 13:5 (MSG)

40 Days of Love Pre-Test ASSESSING YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

Parents	1—3—5—7- Poor	-
Marriage Prospects (If you'd like to marry)	1—3—5—7- Poor	
Spouse	1—3—5—7- Poor	•
Relative	1—3—5—7- Poor	-
Coworkers	1—3—5—7- Poor	•
Neighbors	1—3—5—7- Poor	-
Different/Difficult	1—3—5—7- Poor	•
Children	1—3—5—7- Poor	

Jesus: "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if [you] have love one to another." John 13:35 (KJV)

HOW TO BECOME GREAT AT RELATIONSHIPS

1.	
2.	
4.	
5.	

[&]quot;This is my prayer for you: that your love will grow more and more, and that you will have knowledge and understanding with your love." Philippians 1:9 (NCV)



LOVE MATTERS MOST

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"Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?' Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:36-39 (TLB)

THREE LAWS OF LOVE

"W	hoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."
	1 John 4:8 (NI)
	we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love Go om we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen." 1 John 4:20 (GN
<u>"I c</u>	ove is more important than anything else. It is what <u>ties everything complete</u>
	nether." Colossians 3:14 (CEV)
,	
	ost important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, <u>for love cover</u> nultitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)
	od <u>wiped out</u> the charges that were against us for disobeying the Law Hook them away and nailed them to the cross." Colossians 2:14 (CEV)

2. THE BEST EXPRESSION OF LOVE _

is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NCV)

"We must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words."

1 John 3:18 (GW)

"Three things will continue forever: faith, hope, and love. And the greatest of these

"No matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love."

1 Corinthians 13:3 (MSG)

"The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

Galatians 5:6 (NIV)

"Live a life <u>filled with love</u>, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us." Ephesians 5:2 (NLT)

3. THE BEST TIME TO LOVE

"Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone."

Galatians 6:10 (NLT)

"Use every chance you have for doing good." Ephesians 5:16 (NCV)

"Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it. Never tell your neighbors to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now."

Proverbs 3:27-28 (GNT)

"Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire [this] love [Make it your aim, your great quest]." 1 Corinthians 14:1 (AMPC)

Homework

Next Steps

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LOVING LIKE JESUS LOVES ME

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Jesus: "I'm giving you a new commandment: Love each other in the same way that I have loved you." John 13:34 (GW)

"I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you!"

John 13:15 (NLT)

LIKE JESUS

"The Father gives me my people . . . Every one of them will come to me, and I will always accept them." John 6:37 (NCV)

"Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will take care of me."

Psalm 27:10 (GW)

"Jesus treated us much better than we deserve. He made us acceptable to God and gave us the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:7 (CEV)

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you." Romans 15:7 (NIV)

"We must bear the 'burden' of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others." Romans 15:2 (TLB)

Action Step

the notice of God. Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows." Luke 12:6-7 (NABRE)

VALUE DEPENDS ON

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

VALUE DEPENDS ON

"But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God." 1 Peter 1:19 (TLB)

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you. See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." Isaiah 49:15-16 (NIV)

"Treat everyone you meet with dignity." 1 Peter 2:17 (MSG)

Action Step

LIKE JESUS ______ "I am the God who forgives your sins, and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you." Isaiah 43:25 (GNT)

"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:1 (NIV)

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:28 (NIV)

"Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others."

Colossians 3:13 (NLT)

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven." Luke 6:37 (NIV)

"Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?" Matthew 18:33 (NLT)

Action Step

"As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world."

John 17:18 (NIV)

"Then Jesus told them, 'I tell you the truth, if you have faith and don't doubt, you can do things like this and much more!" Matthew 21:21 (NLT)

"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father."

John 14:12 (NLT)

"I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you." Romans 1:12 (NCV)

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." Hebrews 10:24 (NIV)

Action Step

"May you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is." Ephesians 3:18 (NLT)



LOVE LETS IT GO

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"Love is <u>not . . . rude</u>. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged." 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (NLT)

4 MARKS OF REAL LOVE

LOVE IS NOT RUDE. SO ...

1

"Answering before listening is both stupid and rude." Proverbs 18:13 (MSG)

"Stop being bitter and angry and mad at others. Don't yell at one another or curse each other or ever be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ." Ephesians 4:31-32 (CEV)

"A wise, mature person is known for his understanding. <u>The more pleasant his words</u>, the more <u>persuasive</u> he is." Proverbs 16:21 (GNT)

LOVE DOES NOT DEMAND ITS OWN WAY. SO ...

2

"You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form." Philippians 2:5-7 (NLT)

"Believers shouldn't curse anyone or be quarrelsome, but they should be gentle and show courtesy to everyone." Titus 3:2 (GW)

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31 (NIV)

LOVE IS NOT IRRITABLE. SO ...

3. BE GENTLE, NOT JUDGEMENTAL

"Brothers and sisters, if someone in your group does something wrong, you who are spiritual should go to that person and <u>gently help make him right again</u>. But be careful, because you might be tempted to sin, too." Galatians 6:1 (NCV)

"Each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Therefore, let us stop passing judgment on one another." Romans 14:12-13 (NIV)

"Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit."

Proverbs 15:4 (NLT)

"If your boss is angry at you, don't quit! A quiet spirit can overcome even great mistakes." Ecclesiastes 10:4 (NLT)

LOVE KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS. SO ...

4

"Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, <u>forgive him [drop the issue, let it go]</u>, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions and wrongdoings [against Him and others]." Mark 11:25 (AMP)

"Hate stirs up trouble, but love forgives all offenses." Proverbs 10:12 (GNT)

"When someone wrongs you, it is a great virtue to ignore it."

Proverbs 19:11 (GNT)

"You are only hurting yourself with your anger." Job 18:4 (GNT)

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LOVE IS NOT EASILY ANGERED

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"Love is . . . not easily angered." 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (NIV)

HOW DO YOU TAME YOUR TEMPER?

1.	RESOLVE
	"A fool always loses his temper, But a wise person holds it back." Proverbs 29:11 (NASB)
2.	REMEMBER "A bet to recovered group of the city binds of trouble." Provents 20:22 (TLP)
	"A hot-tempered man gets into all kinds of trouble." Proverbs 29:22 (TLB)
	"Hot tempers cause <u>arguments</u> ." Proverbs 15:18 (GNT)
	"Anger causes mistakes." Proverbs 14:29 (TLB)
	"People with hot tempers do foolish things." Proverbs 14:17 (GNT)
	"The fool who provokes his family to anger and resentment will finally have <u>nothing</u> worthwhile left." Proverbs 11:29 (TLB)
3.	REFLECT
	"Stupid people express their anger openly, but sensible people are patient and hold it back." Proverbs 29:11 (GNT)
	"A person's wisdom yields patience." Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)
	ASK 3 QUESTIONS
	•
	"Lord, help me control my tongue; help me be careful about what I say." Psalm 141:3 (NCV)
	"Drinking too much makes you loud and foolish. It's stupid to get drunk."

Proverbs 20:1 (GNT)

4. RELEASE

"If you become angry, do not let your anger lead you into sin."

Ephesians 4:26 (GNT)

"A gentle answer quiets anger, but a harsh one stirs it up." Proverbs 15:1 (GNT)

5. RE-PATTERN

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think." Romans 12:2 (NLT)

"Keep away from angry, short-tempered men, lest you learn to be like them and endanger your soul." Proverbs 22:24 (TLB)

6. RELY

"patience and encouragement that come from God allow you to live in harmony with each other the way Christ Jesus wants." Romans 15:5 (NCV)

"The fruit of the Spirit is . . . patience." Galatians 5:22 (NLT)

"Whatever is in your heart determines what you say." Matthew 12:34 (NLT)

"I'll give you a new heart, put a new spirit in you. I'll remove the stone heart from your body and replace it with a heart that's God-willed, not self-willed."

Ezekiel 36:26 (MSG)

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THE SECRETS OF LASTING LOVE

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God: "I will show you my love forever. So says the Lord who saves you." Isaiah 54:8 (GNT)

"This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you."

John 15:12 (NLT)

"Love <u>never stops</u> being patient, <u>never stops</u> believing, <u>never stops</u> hoping, <u>never gives up."</u> 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)

1. LASTING LOVE

"Love never stops being patient." 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)

"puts up with anything." (MSG)

"patiently accepts all things." (NCV)

"is always ready to make allowances." (NJB)

"Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love." Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

2. LASTING LOVE

"Love . . . never stops believing." 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)

"always trusts." (NIV)

"never loses faith." (NLT)

"The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

Galatians 5:6 (NIV)

3. LASTING LOVE

"Love . . . never stops hoping." 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)

"always expects the best." (TLB)

"Always looks for the best." (MSG)

4. LASTING LOVE

"Love . . . never gives up." 1 Corinthians 13:7 (GW)

"endures through every circumstance." (NLT)

"always perseveres." (NIV)

"never looks back, but keeps going to the end." (MSG)

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