

PRAYING GOD'S LOVE OVER YOUR LIFE

A FREE SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER GUIDE





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DAY 1: PRAY TO KNOW GOD'S LOVE

THOUGH OUR FEELINGS COME AND GO. GOD'S LOVE FOR US DOES NOT.

-C.S.LEWIS

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13

DAY 2

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:8

"God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: HELP THEM OUT OF A TIGHT SPOT.

When Jesus attended a wedding with His mother, she asked Him to help the hosts when they ran out of wine. We may not be able to miraculously solve a problem, but God has gifted us in other ways to help. (John 2:1-11)

DAY 3: PRAISE GOD FOR HIS DIVINE LOVE.

THE NATURE OF GOD'S LOVE IS UNCHANGEABLE. OURS ALTERNATES ALL TOO READILY. IF IT IS OUR HABIT TO LOVE GOD WITH OUR OWN AFFECTION WE SHALL TURN COLD TOWARDS HIM WHENEVER WE ARE UNHAPPY.

- WATCHMAN NEE

"But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." Psalm 86:15

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14

DAY 4

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment... We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:18-19

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: GET THEM HELP WHEN YOU CAN'T HELP THEM. A paralyzed man received healing from Jesus because his friends dropped him through a roof at Jesus' feet. They were willing to do whatever it took it to get help for their friend! (Mark 2:1-12)

DAY 5: ASK GOD FOR WAYS YOU CAN LOVE OTHERS.

BELIEVE GOD'S LOVE AND POWER MORE THAN YOU BELIEVE YOUR OWN FEELINGS AND EXPERIENCES. YOUR ROCK IS CHRIST, AND IT IS NOT THE ROCK THAT EBBS AND FLOWS BUT THE SEA.

-SAMUEL RUTHERFORD

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." 1 Cor. 13:13

"If you love me, you will obey what I command." John 14:15

DAY 6

"Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly." Colossians 3:14

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." 1 John 4:7-8

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: PRAY FOR THEM.

The Bible is full of people praying for the ones they love. The church prayed for Peter in jail (Acts 12:5). Jesus prayed for the disciples (John 17:6-19). Paul prayed for the Ephesian believers (Ephesians 1:15-23).

DAY 7: PRAY FOR FAITH DESPITE CHANGING FEELINGS.

MEASURE NOT GOD'S LOVE AND FAVOUR BY YOUR OWN FEELING. THE SUN SHINES AS CLEARLY IN THE DARKEST DAY AS IT DOES IN THE BRIGHTEST. THE DIFFERENCE IS NOT IN THE SUN, BUT IN SOME CLOUDS WHICH HINDER THE MANIFESTATION OF THE LIGHT THEREOF.

- RICHARD SIBBES

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

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." Romans 12:9-10

DAY8

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity." Proverbs 17:17

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: REBUKE THEM WHEN NEEDED.

Sometimes the best way we can love someone is by graciously confronting their sinful, destructive behavior (Proverbs 27:6, Matthew 18:15-17).

DAY 9: PRAY TO RECOMMIT YOUR EAITH IN GOD.

GOD'S UNFAILING LOVE FOR US IS AN OBJECTIVE FACT AFFIRMED OVER AND OVER IN THE SCRIPTURES. IT IS TRUE WHETHER WE BELIEVE IT OR NOT. OUR DOUBTS DO NOT DESTROY GOD'S LOVE, NOR DOES OUR FAITH CREATE IT. IT ORIGINATES IN THE VERY NATURE OF GOD, WHO IS LOVE, AND IT FLOWS TO US THROUGH OUR UNION WITH HIS BELOVED SON.

- JERRY BRIDGES

"The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17

"He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

DAY 10

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Ephesians 4:2

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died." 2 Corinthians 5:14

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: FREELY FORGIVE OFFENSES.

Jesus eliminated the limit on forgiveness when Peter asked how many times he should forgive (Matthew 18:21-22). Some hurts seem unforgivable, but with God's help it's possible to "promote love" through forgiveness (Proverbs 17:9).

DAY 11: PRAY FOR A SACRIFICIAL AND HUMBLE HEART.

GOD LOVES EACH OF US AS IF THERE WERE ONLY ONE OF US. - AUGUSTINE

"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great..." Luke 6:35

"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." Eph. 5:25

DAY 12

"But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love..." Nehemiah 9:17

"Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things." Psalm 107:8-9

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: HUMBLY SERVE THEM.

Jesus set the example (John 13:1-17). He calls us – His followers - to also humbly and graciously serve others (Gal 5:13).

DAY 13: PRAISE JESUS FOR HIS SACRIFICE ON THE CROSS.

BY THE CROSS WE KNOW THE GRAVITY OF SIN AND THE GREATNESS OF GOD'S LOVE TOWARD US.

- JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

"For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:13-14

DAY 14

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

"Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:8

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: MEET THEIR PHYSICAL NEEDS.

Scripture is clear. If we see a brother in need, have the means to help but don't, our love for God should be questioned (1 John 3:17).

DAY 15: THANK GOD FOR HIS ENDLESS FAITHFULNESS.

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE YOU FROM GOD'S LOVE, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! GOD IS ENOUGH FOR TIME, GOD IS ENOUGH!

-HANNAH WHITALL SMITH

"Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep." Psalm 36:5-6

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

DAY 16

"Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble." 1 John 2:9-10

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: REJOICE AND MOURN WITH THEM.

We show deep care for others when their hurts and joys are also ours. Don't hold back. Let the tears and the cheers flow! (1 Corinthians 12:25-26).

DAY 17: PRAISE THE LORD FOR HIS GREAT LOVE.

SAVING US IS THE GREATEST AND MOST CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S LOVE, THE DEFINITIVE DISPLAY OF HIS GRACE THROUGHOUT TIME AND ETERNITY.

- DAVID JEREMIAH

"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:16-18

DAY 18

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." 1 John 4:9-11

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: SHOW KINDNESS TO SOMEONE THEY LOVE. King David expressed his deep bond of friendship for Jonathan by caring for Jonathan's crippled son Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13).

DAY 19: PRAY FOR AN OPEN HEART TOWARD THE LORD.

GOD IS LOVE. HE DIDN'T NEED US. BUT HE WANTED US. AND THAT IS THE MOST AMAZING THING.

"His banner over me is love." Song of Songs 2:4

"The commandments...are summed up in the one command, 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' If you love others, you will never do them wrong, to love, then, is to obey the whole Law." Romans 13:9-10

DAY 20

"Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death... Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away." Song of Songs 8:6-7

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: INTERCEDE WITH OTHERS ON THEIR BEHALF. Could your influence help a loved one? Barnabas smoothed the way for Paul with the Jerusalem church leaders (Acts 9:27-30). Paul wrote to Philemon appealing for Onesimus the runaway slave (Philemon 8-11).

DAY 21: PRAY FOR IDEAS ABOUT HOW TO LOVE OTHERS.

WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR YOU TO DIE, YOU NEED NOT BE AFRAID, BECAUSE DEATH CANNOT SEPARATE YOU FROM GOD'S LOVE.

- CHARLES SPURGEON

"I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself." Psalm 89:2

"The earth is filled with your love, O Lord..." Psalm 119:64

DAY 22

"You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart." 1 Peter 1:22

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: HELP TWO LOVED ONES WORK OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES.

Does strife exist between two people you love? Be a mediator and help them mend their relationship. Paul asked the believers in Philippi to help two women in their church who were at odds (Philippians 4:2-3).

DAY 23: PRAISE GOD FOR HIS HOLINESS.

WE SHOULD BE ASTONISHED AT THE GOODNESS OF GOD, STUNNED THAT HE SHOULD BOTHER TO CALL US BY NAME, OUR MOUTHS WIDE OPEN AT HIS LOVE, BEWILDERED THAT AT THIS VERY MOMENT WE ARE STANDING ON HOLY GROUND.

- BRENNAN MANNING

"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 22:37-39

DAY 24

"In all these things, we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death or life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:37-39

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: INTRODUCE THEM TO JESUS.

Does a loved one desperately need to know Jesus? Share the Good News! Andrew introduced his brother Peter to Jesus (John 1:35-42).

DAY 25: PRAY FOR THE LORD TO BE YOUR STRENGTH.

IT'S NOT ABOUT FINDING WAYS TO AVOID GOD'S JUDGMENT AND FEELING LIKE A FAILURE IF YOU DON'T DO EVERYTHING PERFECTLY.IT'S ABOUT FULLY EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE AND LETTING IT PERFECT YOU.IT'S NOT ABOUT BEING SOMEBODY YOU ARE NOT.IT'S ABOUT BECOMING WHO YOU REALLY ARE.

-STORMIE OMARTIAN

"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline." 1 Timothy 1:7

"Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king." 1 Peter 2:17

DAY 26

"But be very careful...to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul." Joshua 22:5

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: ENCOURAGE AND DISCIPLE THEM IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST.

The author of Hebrews tells us to "spur one another on to good works" and "encourage one another" daily (Hebrews 10:24-25).

DAY 27: PRAISE GOD FOR HIS UNFAILING LOVE.

WHEN I LAY THESE QUESTIONS BEFORE GOD I GET NO ANSWER. BUT A RATHER SPECIAL SORT OF 'NO ANSWER.' IT IS NOT THE LOCKED DOOR. IT IS MORE LIKE A SILENT, CERTAINLY NOT UNCOMPASSIONATE, GAZE. AS THOUGH HE SHOOK HIS HEAD NOT IN REFUSAL BUT WAIVING THE QUESTION. LIKE, 'PEACE, CHILD; YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.

- C.S. LEWIS

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,' says the Lord, who has compassion on you." Isaiah 54:10

DAY 28

"Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man." Prov. 3:3-4

HOW TO LOVE OTHERS TODAY: LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE!

Seems pretty drastic, but that's exactly how Jesus showed His love for us (John 15:12-13). The basic principle has much broader application than actual physical death. Jesus calls us to unselfishly seek put others ahead of ourselves.

DAY 29: PRAY THAT GOD WOULD INCREASE YOUR LOVE.

THE GREATEST HONOR WE CAN GIVE ALMIGHTY GOD IS TO LIVE GLADLY BECAUSE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS LOVE.

- JULIAN OF NORWICH

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other..." 1Thess. 3:12

"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you." Psalm 63:3

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DAY 30

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails..." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Editor's note: Content for this guide was adapted from the following articles:

14 Ways to Show Love to Those You Love by Kathy Howard
21 Inspiring Quotes about God's Love Every Woman Needs by Asheritah Ciuciu
50 Verses of Love: From God's Heart to Us by Debbie McDaniel