



# Cultivating Christian Love

1 Peter 3:8-12, Psalm 34, Romans 12:17-21

# Increasing In Virtue

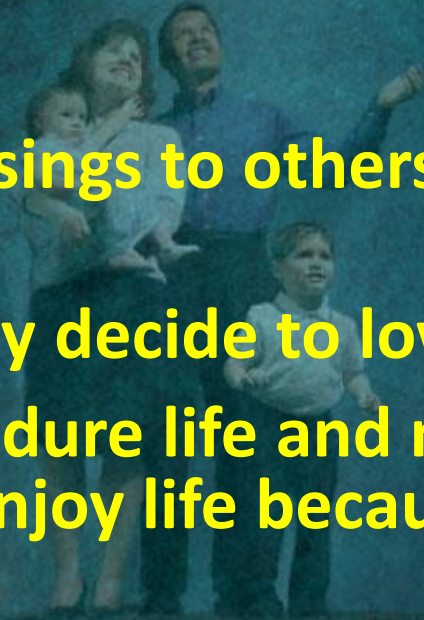
- The church is to strive for harmony by pursuing the same goals.
- A Christian needs to have a genuine feeling for the needs of others.
- Christian love is seeing and treating each other as brothers and sisters.
- A Christian needs to cultivate a tender dheart that is moved by the suffering of others.
- A Christian should be humble, putting others ahead of themselves.
- We honor God when our relationships, sympathy, love, compassion and humility are God-ordered.

# Inheriting Blessings

- Repaying evil for evil and insult for insult has no place in the Christian's life.
- God's children do not operate on the basis of justice but on the basis of mercy.
- We all have a natural tendency to want to retaliate when someone questions our motives or actions.
- Personal wrong by word or deed should not hinder us from blessing another.
- God says we "inherit a blessing" when we treat our enemies with love and mercy.

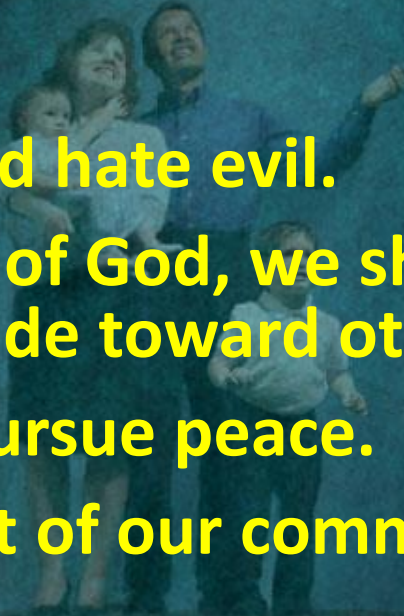
# Finding Life and Peace

- When we bring blessings to others, we are also blessed.
- We must deliberately decide to love life.
- We can decide to endure life and make it a burden, or we can enjoy life because we know God is in control.
- We, who experience the Lord's special love, should love life.
- We must control our tongues.
- Christians must not deviate from integrity and truthfulness in speech.



# Loving Life

- We must do good and hate evil.
- As heirs of the grace of God, we should be gracious in our attitude toward others.
- We must seek and pursue peace.
- Peace is a by-product of our commitment to Christ.
- Making peace is harder work than waging war.
- Believers who walk in the way of holiness know that God is attentive to their prayers.
- God will fulfill His eternal purpose to punish those who make provoking Him the goal of their lives.



# Conclusion

- It is both the duty and necessity of God's people to encourage themselves in the responsibilities of love.
- Trust God to provide and protect and let Him defeat your enemies.
- Good days are not necessarily days free from problems.
- The next time you think you are having a bad day and hating it, you may discover that it can be a good day in which to glorify God.

