What Christian Love Looks like

NorthRidge Church
Pastor Chip Hopkins
October 25, 2026

Introduction:

_____ is more than a _____.

- Here's a little **Secret**: If we don't love like _____, we can't _____ effectively.
- Here's the **Central Truth** for today: Christian _____ looks like _____.

Romans 12:9-16

1. Christian Love is _____. Vs. 9
2. Christian Love Loves _____. Vs. 9
3. Christian Love Puts Others _____. Vs. 10
4. Christian Love _____ with Passion. Vs. 11
5. Christian Love Stays Faithful When _____. Vs. 12
6. Christian Love Meets _____. Vs. 13
7. Christian Love _____ into Other People's Joy and Pain. Vs. 15
8. Christian Love Chooses _____. Vs. 16

So What …

How do we live like this? The Answer: You _____ what you _____. We don't _____ Christian love. We _____ it from Christ and then we _____.

The Christian Life begins with understanding how much God has loved us.

Romans 1-11 explains God's Mercy. Romans 12 begins with "Therefore" … In other words, because of everything God has done for you, now _____.

The Challenge …

This week don't just _____ about love, _____ it. Live _____

Here's the **Question** ... Does the way I love people look like Jesus?

When we love like Jesus, people see Jesus, and when people see Jesus … Lives can be changed.

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

THE SWEET AROMA OF PRAYER…AND GOD'S POWER

When prayers feel lost in difficult seasons, Scripture reveals a different reality; they do not vanish. Gathered in golden bowls before God's throne, every prayer rises as a sweet-smelling aroma, fully valued and savored by the Creator.

*The twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp and **golden bowls full of incense which are the prayers of the saints**. **Rev. 5:8***

An angel with a golden censer stands at the altar. He is given much incense (the prayers of all God's people) which is then infused with fire from the altar and hurled to the earth; …"*and then came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. **Rev. 8:3-5**"*

The fire on the altar was originally lit by God Himself and was never allowed to go out. It represents God's absolute holiness. When your prayers are mixed with this fire, it's symbolic of God purifying your weak, imperfect words and infusing them with His perfect and holy will. The altar fire also represents the power of the Cross and the Resurrection. Our prayers become backed by the work of Jesus and they return to earth with authority because they are stamped with Christ's victory. Symbolically, thunder echoes the authoritative voice of God. Lightning brings divine illumination and breakthroughs. Earthquakes shake and shift unmovable situations.

Place your prayers into the golden bowl. Leave them in God's hands, knowing He sees and values them. Welcome the "fire", asking God to purify your motives and align your requests with His perfect timing and power. Keep praying, as the heavenly bowls fill and God's fire responds. Submit the outcomes to God. Leave your time of prayer with absolute confidence that God is actively working behind the scenes and that His response will shake things up with breakthroughs, divine directions, and shifting circumstances.

Do these scriptures impact how you will pray today?

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Introduction:

Love is more than a **Word**.

- Here's a little **Secret**: If we don't love like **Jesus**, we can't **Serve** effectively.
- Here's the **Central Truth** for today: Christian **Love** looks like **Jesus**.

Romans 12:9-16

1. Christian Love is **Genuine**. Vs. 9
2. Christian Love Loves **What is Good**. Vs. 9
3. Christian Love Puts Others **Before Self**. Vs. 10
4. Christian Love **Serves** with Passion. Vs. 11
5. Christian Love Stays Faithful When **Life Gets Hard**. Vs. 12
6. Christian Love Meets **Practical Needs**. Vs. 13
7. Christian Love **Enters** into Other People's Joy and Pain. Vs. 15
8. Christian Love Chooses **Humility**. Vs. 16

So What …

How do we live like this? The Answer: You **Can't Give** what you **Haven't Received**. We don't **Manufacture** Christian love. We **Receive** it from Christ and then we **Give it Away**.

The Christian Life begins with understanding how much God has loved us.

Romans 1-11 explains God's Mercy. Romans 12 begins with "Therefore" … In other words, because of everything God has done for you, now **Live Differently**.

The Challenge …

This week don't just **Talk** about love, **Practice** it. Live **Differently**

Here's the **Question** ... Does the way I love people look like Jesus?

When we love like Jesus, people see Jesus, and when people see Jesus … Lives can be changed.

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

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When prayers feel lost in difficult seasons, Scripture reveals a different reality; they do not vanish. Gathered in golden bowls before God's throne, every prayer rises as a sweet-smelling aroma, fully valued and savored by the Creator.

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