APPLICATION

- Have you understood and experienced Christ's love for you? If not, would you like to do so today?
- Does your life reflect the trademark of God's love?
 What's one thing you know you should start doing differently this week?
- Do you know someone who seems difficult to love, but you know God is asking you to reach out to? How do you think you can show His love to him/her this week?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His unconditional and unfailing love for you. Pray that you would always appreciate this.
- Ask God to help you love others as you've experienced His love. Lift up to Him especially those who seem difficult to love and speak a blessing over your relationship with them.
- Pray that your life will be marked by Christ's love and it would draw many people to Him. Pray that you will be loving, gracious, kind, compassionate, generous, humble, and that you will easily forgive others.



WEEK 3

Living in Love

NOTES		

WARM-UP

- What's the most loving thing you did for someone this week?
- How or when do you usually feel loved? How or when do you feel unloved? Recall a specific instance explaining this.
- Why do you think loving people can be difficult?



Copyright © 2014 Permission to photocopy this material from Victory® is granted for local church use. This is not for sale. victory.org.ph



Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 JOHN 4:7

Contrary to the popular and cultural notion of love being a feeling that comes and goes randomly, the Bible says that love comes from God and is more than a fleeting emotion. Experiencing love from God enables us to love others. And this love is expressed through our actions and lifestyle. In this lesson, we will explore these truths further.

1 Christ commanded us to love one another.

This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. 1 JOHN 3:11

³⁴"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." **JOHN 13:34,35**

Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another,

and He said this love will be a trademark for others to recognize who His disciples are. This was a command, not a suggestion or just a good idea Jesus wanted to throw out there. If we are really His disciples and He gave us this command, what is the only fitting response?

2 We can love one another because Christ loves us.

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. 1 JOHN 3:16

Jesus didn't just give us this command to love others—He modeled and demonstrated it for us on the cross by laying His life down for us. If we have truly experienced and understood this love, we can now show this to others. Why is the sacrifice of Jesus the greatest demonstration of true love? What does it mean to lay down our lives for our brothers?

3 We express Christ's love in deed and in truth.

¹⁷If 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? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

1.JOHN 3:17.18

Seeing someone in need and just talking about it does not help. Meeting the need through actions and with truth does. As the Apostle John says, showing God's love should translate beyond words into deeds. Love in action and truth includes kindness, compassion, generosity, humility, and forgiveness. Recall a time when someone expressed this kind of love to you, as a reflection of Christ's love.