



[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Wednesday, May 31, 2017 - The Blessing of Loving Others

MAY 31ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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[1 Peter 1:22](#)

If we responded simply from natural impulses, we'd probably be nice when people were kind. At other times, though, we would likely be vengeful, angry, or hurtful.

Yet Jesus clearly teaches us to love even when those around us seem unlovable. And He lived out what He taught: Christ loved us enough to die for us while we were still sinners ([Rom. 5:8](#)). Surely, out of gratitude for what He did, and with His strength, we—His followers—can love others ([1 John 3:14](#)).

While it's hard to respond to unkindness with love, such godly behavior can lead to great blessing in our life. First, the Father is pleased. This realization should bring His children joy, peace, and a sense of accomplishment. Next, believers ought to feel excitement and anticipation to watch how God will move in the relationship. Finally, there will be an awareness that the Holy Spirit is working from within, enabling divine love to flow through yielded human lives.

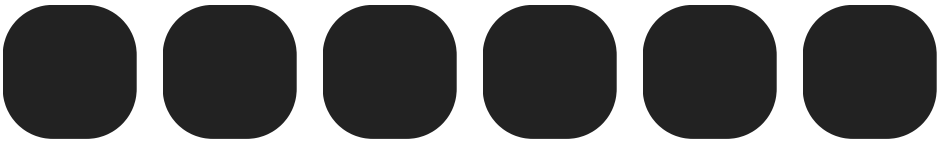
[John 13:35](#) tells of an important benefit: Jesus said, “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” Since unconditional godly love is uncommon in our world, people will notice.

Treating others as we want to be treated is what builds the deep, satisfying connections that all people desire. Without significant relationships, life lacks meaning—regardless of how many possessions or acquaintances we have. So think about the people you come in contact with throughout the week. Are you treating them the way that Jesus modeled?

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