

Love and Biblical Ethics**Session 3****The Primary Focus: Love and Biblical Ethics**

Since I have faith that my holy, loving God does what is best, I respond to Him in loving obedience and relate to others in the same selfless love. Matt.22:37-39

Loving God

Love Links Study: The Scriptures below all contain statements about loving God. As you read them, make connections or links to loving God. In the space below, write “love links” list you have discovered.

- Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
- Deu 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;
- Deu 10:12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,
- Deu 11:1 Therefore thou shalt love the LORD thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, always.
- Deu 11:13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,
- Deu 11:22 For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;
- Deu 30:16 In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

Love Links List**Loving My Neighbor**

Extreme or Expected? Answer the following questions from Matthew 5:43-48.

- How did Jesus teach his disciples to respond to enemies? 44
- “You are your father’s son.” We use the expression to point out similarities when a son acts as his father would. How did Jesus do the same thing? 45a
- In 5:45b Jesus made what may seem to be a strange statement. What did Jesus teach by it?
 - ☐ This is a general statement about weather patterns.
 - ☐ This is an illustration of God’s indiscriminate kindness to all that models how disciples should treat others.
 - ☐ This is an illustration of God’s indiscriminate kindness to all, so disciples do not need to be concerned about how they treat others since God is kind to all.
- How do verses 46-47 further the Lord’s teaching?
- What standard of loving others does Jesus expect of his disciples? 48

According to Jesus’ “Golden Rule” in Matt. 7:12, how we treat people should be determined by...

- ☐ How we expect them to treat us.
- ☐ How they treat us.
- ☐ How we would want to be treated.

Have you been the recipient of Golden Rule living recently? Tell the story.

The Complementary Theme: Liberty, Decision-making, and Christian Liberty

Wise Warnings and Direction: Read the passages on Christian liberty aloud. What warnings and direction does God give?

1 Cor. 8:9, 12 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

Gal. 5: 13-14 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.