

"How to LOVE by Faith" 1 John 4:19-21

If God's goal is to "perfect us in love," (1 John 4:12,17-18) ... And He has predestined us to be conformed to the Image of His Son ... (Romans 8:20) How does He do this? He does it by:

- A. Us _____ time with Him. That teaches us to love.
- B. He uses good people ... to love us _____.
- C. But the greater lessons come as He brings _____ people into our lives.

Real important counsel:

- A. **Colossians 3:14** tells us to _____.
To love with God's love is _____.
- B. This helps us get _____ first, so we are part of the _____,
and not part of the problem.
- C. **The KEY: We couple _____ with _____.**
(it takes both) ... Our life-changing _____ with Christ (LOVE);
coupled with an _____ (FAITH) at God's Direction.

Romans 12 - STEPS:

1. Give _____ and show _____ to others because of the Grace that God has shown you. **"let love be without hypocrisy" V.9**

2. _____ (alone and out-loud)
 - Use anger and hurt as _____ of unforgiveness.
 - Remember it's deeply _____ people ... who wound others

3. _____ for those who have hurt you. **12:12 – "devoted to prayer"**
Matthew 5:44 – "but I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you."
 - Keeps the _____ open.

4. NO _____. NO _____. NO _____ replies.
12:17 – "Never" ... (only hurts us)
 - Instead _____ the right and honorably approach.

5. Instead _____ who persecute you..” **V.14**
“**Don’t let anything unwholesome come out of your mouth**”
Ephesians 4:29 (bad for us)
- A. Let the Holy Spirit give you a _____ of blessing to say publicly.
B. _____ say, “Lord, help them today ... come to know you,
and find healing.”

* **6.** Ask the Holy Spirit for an _____ of the _____
Love of JESUS CHRIST for them. **Romans 5:5** – “**because the Love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.**”

(you ask for it He will give it **PROMISE**)

- 7.** Ask the Father to show you how He _____.
- It will help you see their _____; vs. focusing on their failures.
(“**cover**” their failures) **1 Peter 4:8**

- 8.** Ask the Holy Spirit how you can _____ your enemy. **12:20**
A. Do this with “no thought of return” ... no deadlines for God to do the miracle..... But our heart focused on obeying God, not on their _____.

B. BUT If God has given us a person as an _____ it means HE sees that the miracle/changed life ... will happen.

C. Love must be _____ in order to be grasped.
Romans 5:8

- 9.** Some situations you _____ . **Commit it to God.**
12:18 – “**as much as possible**” ... I will obey God and do my part.

- 10.** Commit to love, for the _____ ; in every situation.
12:21, 1 Cor. 13:8