

“...what love is”

1 John 3:16

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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.

“...what love is”

“Real love is an action, not a feeling. It produces selfless sacrificial giving. The greatest act of love is giving oneself for others.

How can we lay down our lives? By serving others with no thought of receiving anything in return.”

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“...what love is”

“And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by, from this day to the ending of the world, But we in it shall be remembered- We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile, This day shall gentle his condition; and gentlemen in England now-a-bed, shall think themselves accursed they were not here, and hold their manhood's cheap whiles any speaks, that fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.”

“...what love is”



“...what love is”

John 15:13-17

13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down his life for his friends. **14**

You are my friends if you do what I command. **15** I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead,

I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit — fruit that will last — and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. **17** This is my command: Love each other.

“and suffer many things”

Matthew 16:21

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

“and suffer many things”

Luke 9:51

**As the time approached for
him to be taken up to heaven,
Jesus resolutely set out for
Jerusalem.**

“and suffer many things”

“Although Jesus knew He would face persecution and death in Jerusalem, He was determined to go there. That kind of resolve should characterize our lives.”

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“and suffer many things”

Matthew 16:22-23

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said.

“This shall never happen to you!” **23**

Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get

behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

“and suffer many things”

“Peter, Jesus’ friend and devoted follower who had just eloquently proclaimed Jesus’ true identity, sought to protect Him from the suffering He prophesied. But if Jesus hadn’t suffered and died, Peter (and we) would have died in our sins.”

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“and suffer many things”

Matthew 16:24-26

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. **25** For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. **26** What good will it be for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?”

“and suffer many things”

John 15:18-21

18 “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. **19** If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

20 Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. **21** They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me.

“and suffer many things”

“What does Jesus want from us? Total dedication, not halfhearted commitment. We can’t pick and choose among Jesus’ ideas and follow Him selectively, we have to accept the cross along with the crown. We must count the cost and be willing to abandon everything else that has given us security-without looking back.”

“Christ died for us”

Romans 5:6-8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

“Christ died for us”

“God love for His own is unwavering because it is not based on how loveable we are, but on the constancy of His own character. God’s supreme act of love came when we were at our most undesirable.”

John MacArthur

“Christ died for us”

Mark 14:35-36

35 Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. **36** “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

Applications

- **Count the cost**
- **Be willing to sacrifice**
- **“Follow Me”**

Final Thoughts

John 21:19b

**Then he said to him,
“Follow me!”**

Final Thoughts

“...why God would pour out His love on fallen humanity. Why would He choose to love finite, fallen, sinful human beings at the cost of His own son’s life? Why didn’t God just write us all off as wretched sinners, make us the objects of His wrath, and display His glory in judgment against us?”

John MacArthur

Final Thoughts

1 John 3:1

See how great a love the
Father has bestowed on us,
that we would be called
children of God

Final Thoughts

