

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Hymnal



We Are Gathered For Thy Blessing

We are gathered for Thy blessing,
We will wait upon our God;
We will trust in Him Who loved us,
And Who bought us with His blood.

Spirit, now melt and move
All of our hearts with love,
Breathe on us from above
With old-time pow'r.

We will glory in Thy power,
We will sing of wondrous grace;
In our midst, as Thou has promised,
Come, oh, come, and take Thy place.

Spirit, now melt and move
All of our hearts with love,
Breathe on us from above
With old-time pow'r.

Bring us low in prayer before Thee,
And with faith our souls inspire,
Till we claim, by faith, the promise
Of the Holy Ghost and fire.

Spirit, now melt and move
All of our hearts with love,
Breathe on us from above
With old-time pow'r.



Keep on Loving...

Doctrine > Duty

Without a RELATIONSHIP with God there can be neither the sustained ability or desire to live up to the Bible's standards of morality.

Information > Expectation > Motivation

(Hebrews 13:1) “Love the brothers...”

We are not told to “make it happen,” but to “let it continue”

Relief! I do not have to **manufacture** love! Instead, I simply refuse to **stifle** or **neglect** [God's] love, but determine to **nurture** and **express** it.

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand...”

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. (*Romans 5:1,5*)

Get over preoccupation with self.
Become preoccupied with others!

Be devoted to one another
in brotherly love. Honor one
another above yourselves!

(Romans 12:10)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

(Phil. 2:3-4)

Be involved (helpful) when adversity
hits the “brother”

A friend loves at all times and
a brother is born for adversity.
(Prov. 17:17)

“Remember those earlier days...
Sometimes you were publicly
exposed to insult and
persecution. At other times you
stood side by side with those who
were so treated. You
sympathized...”

(Heb. 10:33)

IMPORTANCE OF “BROTHERLY LOVE”

- a) Reveals to the world that I belong to Christ
(John 13:35)
- b) Adds assurance to my own identity/confidence as a Christian
(1 John 3:14)
- c) Brings delight and glory to God
(1 John 3:16, 4:11-12)

(Hebrews 13:2) “Love the
strangers...”

The **desire** to **help** the needy stranger must outweigh the **fear** of being **exploited**

When we reach out to help
in good faith, God will honor
and reward our **effort**, no
matter the **outcome**.

Therefore, as we have
opportunity, let us do good
to ALL PEOPLE, especially
those who belong to the
household of believers.

(Galatians 6:10)

Do not pay back wrong for wrong,
but always remain kind to each
other and to EVERYONE ELSE.

(1 THESS. 5:15)

Angels? Not given as a **motivation** for hospitality, but an **illustration** of how important (or far reaching) a simple helping act may be.

(Hebrews 13:3)

“Love the prisoner/persecuted...”

We do not need to experience any particular situation in order to identify/sympathize with those who do.

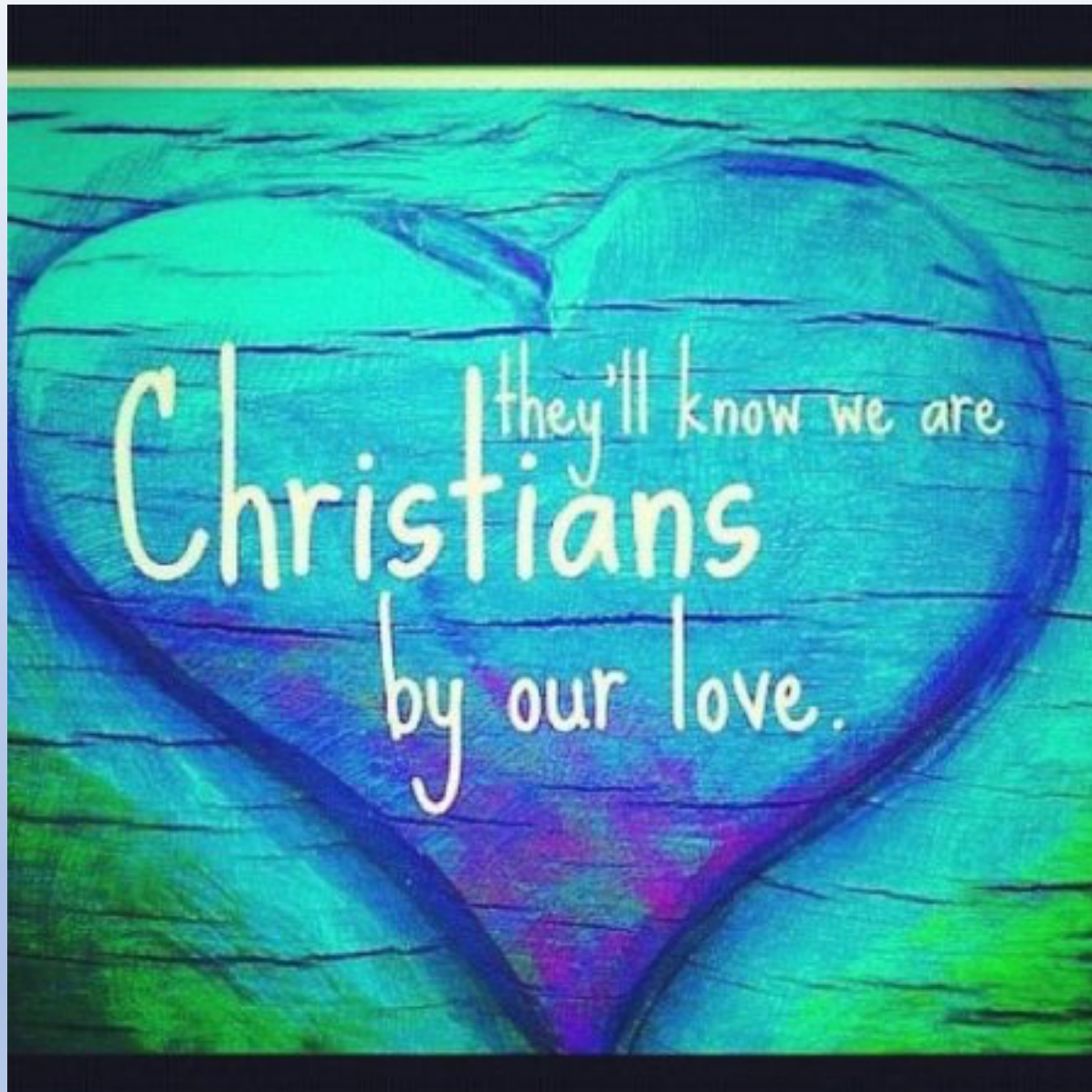
So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. This sums up the Law and the Prophets.

(Jesus... Mt. 7:12)

Instead of using our own troubles as **excuses** NOT to be involved, we should be **motivated** by **our own** weakness/suffering to be involved however we can.

(13:3) **NIV** = “as if you yourselves
were suffering”

GREEK TEXT (literal) = as
also yourselves being
in a body



We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity
will one day be restored.

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the
news that God is in our land.

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

We Will work with each other,
we will work side by side;
We will work with each other,
we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each man's
dignity and save each man's pride.

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit
who makes us one.

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love.