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Train & Multiply™

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Following the Lord Jesus Christ

Study 3



Pastoral Leader Training Booklet

7

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LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AND YOUR ENEMY

A certain teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus.

“Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to receive eternal life?”

Jesus answered him, “What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?”

The man answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind’; and ‘You must love your fellowman as yourself.’”

“Your answer is correct,” replied Jesus, “do this and you will live.”

But the teacher of the law wanted to put himself in the right, so he asked Jesus, “Who is my fellowman?”

Jesus answered, “There was a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead.

NOTES

[illegible]

LEARN BY HEART

Jesus answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: ‘You must love your fellowman as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:37-39)

PRACTICAL WORK

- Start to do something that shows your love (something practical which you have not done before), for your family or some friend or enemy.
- Using the illustration, tell the story of the Good Samaritan to your family.

Study and Practical Work Done

(Date)

(Signature of the teacher)

It so happened that a priest was going down that road; when he saw the man he walked on by, on the other side. In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by, on the other side.

But a certain Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon him, and when he saw the man his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.

The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, ‘Take care of him,’ he told the innkeeper, ‘and when I come back this way I will pay you back whatever you spend on him.’”

And Jesus concluded, “In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a fellowman toward the man attacked by the robbers?”

The teacher of the Law answered, “The one who was kind to him.” Jesus replied, “You go then, and do the same.” (Luke 10:25-37)

The apostle Paul explains how love fulfills all God's law:

"The commandments, 'Do not commit adultery; do not murder; do not steal; do not covet' - all these, and any other beside, are summed up in the one command, 'Love your fellowman as yourself.' Whoever loves his fellowman will never do him wrong. To love, then, is to obey the whole Law."

(Romans 13:9-10)

Above all, Jesus and his apostles, by their words and deeds, gave the highest importance to love. First, love for God, then for others.

Do you, too, want Christian love to be the rule of all your life? _____

Sincere love is the fruit of the Spirit of God in our hearts. Only a Christian filled by the Holy Spirit can love his enemies, those who hurt him and treat him badly. Only God can give us this sacrificial love. The apostle Paul commands us, in Ephesians 4:32 *"Be kind and tenderhearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you in Christ."*

What do you plan to do to show your love and forgiveness if someone who has treated you badly? (Think of a real situation.)

What can you do to show more love toward your family? (Something practical.)

In John 14:15, Jesus said: *"If you love men, you will obey my commandments."* Love includes all the other commandments (Romans 13:9). Someone who loves the Lord always tells the truth, (does not lie), works honestly, (does not steal), lives a pure life, (does not commit adultery), is content with what God gives him (does not covet), etc.

What will you do to express your sincere love for Jesus Christ? (Something specific to glorify Him.)
