



LOVING DIFFICULT PEOPLE | WEEK 4

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There is and always has been an **inseparable** link between God's love and his people.

The love of God empowers us to _____.

People are _____ to love.

"But I say, love your **enemies**! Pray for those who **persecute** you!"
Matthew 5:44

"If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that?
Even corrupt **tax collectors** do that much. If you are kind only to your
friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even **pagans** do that."
Matthew 5:46-47

"In the practical order of the Kingdom, the love of God and the love of
neighbor are inseparable." — Brennan Manning

Without love, our faith is a _____.

If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person
is a **liar**; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God,
whom we cannot see? *1 John 4:20*

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't
love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I
had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans
and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could
move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be **nothing**. If I gave
everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could
boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained **nothing**.
1 Corinthians 13:1-3

"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of
the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were **doing it to me!**'"
Matthew 25:40

For Christ's **love compels** us, because we are **convinced** that one **died**
for all, and therefore all died. *2 Corinthians 5:14*

"There is no greater love than to **lay down** one's life for one's friends."
John 15:13

God's _____ for people became Paul's _____ for people.

For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the
Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with **his love**. *Romans 5:5*

God's Spirit makes us loving... *Galatians 5:22*

You end up treating people the way God treats them.

"In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in
heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and
he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike." *Matthew 5:45*

Jesus said, "Father, **forgive** them, for they don't know what they are
doing." *Luke 23:34*

Who are the hard people you're going to love?

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