

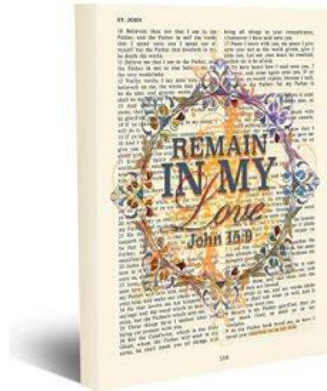
Back to the Father

Your Journey

Journey of Studies

Study on Love

Remaining in Love - Part 7



As in any loving family there are things that help cultivate love and there are things that can cause it to die, this also true in the Family of God.

John 15:9-10 Even as the Father has loved (*egapesen*) me, I also have loved (*egapesa*) you. Remain in my love (*agape*). (10 If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love; (*agape*) even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and remain in his love (*agape*).
WEB

- Keeping the commandments is evidence that we love. John 14:15; 1 John 5:2; John 14:22-24
- We are commanded to love and when we love we fulfill the commandments and remain in his love. Matt 22:36-40 John 13:34-35; John 15:12-17 Rom 13:8-10 2 John 4-6

1 Thess 4:9-12 But concerning **brotherly love**, (*philadelphias*) you have no need that one write to you. For you yourselves are taught by God to love (*agapen*) one another, 10 for indeed you do it toward all the brothers who are in all Macedonia. But we exhort you, brothers, that you abound more and more; 11 and that you make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, even as we charged you; 12 that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and may have need of nothing. WEB

- We have been taught of God how to agape by all that God has done for us and out of that phileo for each other is a natural response.

2 Tim 2:22-23 Flee from youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, **love**, (*agapen*) and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But refuse foolish and ignorant questionings, knowing that they generate strife. WEB

- We are to pursue love and the things that promote it and flee from the things that tear love down. (Phil 4:6-9; Gal 5:22,23; 1 Cor 13:4-7; 2 Peter 1:1-11; Matt 24:11-12)

Heb 10:23-25 let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering; for he who promised is faithful. 24 Let us consider how to provoke one another to love (*agapes*) and good works, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching. WEB

- Let us consider: Let us so regard the welfare of others as to endeavor to excite them to persevere in the Christian life. The idea is, that much might be done, in securing perseverance and fidelity, by mutual kind exhortation. They were not to be selfish; they were not to regard their own interests only; they were to have a kind sympathy in the concerns of each other. They had, as Christians have now, the same duties to perform, and the same trials to meet, and they should strengthen each other in their trials and encourage them in their work.
- Provoke: We use the word "provoke" now in a somewhat different sense, as meaning to offend, to irritate, to incense; but its original meaning is to "arouse, to excite, to call into action," and it is used in this sense here. The Greek is, literally, "unto a paroxysm of love" the word "paroxysm" meaning "excitement or impulse," and the idea is, that they were to endeavor to arouse or excite each other to the manifestation of love. The word is what properly expresses excitement, and means that Christians should endeavor to excite each other. There is no danger that Christians will ever be excited to love each other too much, or to perform too many good works. Barnes' Notes

Luke 7:41-43 "A certain lender had two debtors. The one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they couldn't pay, he forgave them both. Which of them therefore will **love** (*agapesei*) him most?" 43 Simon answered, "He, I suppose, to whom he forgave the most." WEB Luke 7:36-50

Let us remember how much we have been forgiven and be thankful and remain in the love of God that we have through Christ Jesus. Let us remain rooted and grounded in love. Eph 3:17