

# Loving God

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

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**1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:**

**2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.**

**3 But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.**

**4 And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you.**

**5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.**

# Introduction

- A. We need to let the Word of God have free course (3:1)**
- B. We need deliverance from unreasonable men (3:2)**
- C. We need God to establish us (3:3)**
- D. Can others count on us to do what God commands?**
- E. We need to be directed into the love of God**

# **I. A Growing Love**

## **A. A consequence of the Spirit's work**

**Galatians 5:22**

**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,**

## **B. A continuing work in progress**

**John 15:5**

**I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.**

## **II. A Showing Love**

### **A. In action**

**1 John 3:17-18**

**17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?**

**18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.**

## **II. A Showing Love**

### **B. In acknowledgment**

**John 13:34-35**

**34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**

**35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

### **C. In adoration**

**Romans 5:5**

**And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

## **III. A Controlling Love**

### **A. The requirements**

#### **1. Love for God**

**John 14:15**

**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

#### **2. Love for God's Word**

**1 John 5:3**

**For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.**

### **III. A Controlling Love**

#### **B. The result**

**2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

**14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:**

**15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**



## **IV. A Going Love**

### **A. Through the actions of Christ**

**1 John 4:7-9**

**7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.**

**8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.**

**9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.**

## **IV. A Going Love**

### **B. Through the acceptance of Christ**

#### **1. Profession by faith**

**1 John 4:15**

**Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.**

#### **2. Possession in faith**

**1 John 4:16**

**And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.**

## **IV. A Going Love**

**B. Through the acceptance of Christ - continued**

**3. Perfection through faith**

**1 John 4:17-18**

**17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.**

**18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.**

**Christ Loves You Unconditionally**

**Do You Love Him The Same Way?**