

Love One Another Romans 12:10-13 (NKJV)

10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Paul here give us a list of 9 things that Christians do that demonstrate that they are Christian.

John MacArthur speaks at length to demonstrate that this is supernatural.

We do not have the strength to do or even the desire to do these things outside of Jesus Christ.

But the believer does have the desire.

It is the Holy Spirit that works in him to do the will of God.

We all face challenges in our lives that bring us to despair but God is with us and in us.

So Paul once again reminds them of their calling, their vocation, their goal, **to be like Jesus.**

John Murray gives us his way of arrainging these verses to more closely reflect how the Greek has it.

"In brotherly love being kindly affectioned to one another, in honour preferring one another, in zeal not flagging, in spirit fervent, serving the Lord, in hope rejoicing, in affliction being patient, in prayer continuing instant, in the needs of the saints partaking, hospitality pursuing". *John Murray, The Epistle to the Romans – Volume II, (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1997), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, 129.*

I. "In brotherly love being kindly affectioned to one another,

A. Defined

1. W. E. Vine

a. 2. **philostorgos (φιλόστοργος, 5387), "tenderly loving" (from philos, "friendly," storge, see No. 1)**, is used in Rom. 12:10, RV, "tenderly affectioned" (KJV, "kindly affectioned"). *W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White Jr., Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Nashville, TN: T. Nelson, 1996), 16.*

b. 1. **astorgos (ἄστοργος, 794) signifies "without natural affection" (a, negative, and storge, "love of kindred," especially of parents for children and children for parents; a fanciful etymology associates with this the "stork"), Rom. 1:31; 2 Tim. 3:3.¶**

2. Strong

- a. 5387 φιλόστοργος [philostorgos /fil·os·tor·gos/] adj. From 5384 and storge (cherishing one's kindred, especially parents or children); GK 5816; AV translates as "kindly affectioned" once. 1 the mutual love of parents and children and wives and husbands. 2 loving affection, prone to love, loving tenderly. 2A chiefly of the reciprocal tenderness of parents and children. *James Strong, Enhanced Strong's Lexicon (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995).*
3. There are three Greek words translated love used in the New Testament.
 - a. *agapê* . . . the word used in verse 9. The remaining two words, *philia* and *storgê*, are in this verse, which means that all three of the New Testament's words for love are in verses 9 and 10. *James Montgomery Boice, Romans: The New Humanity, vol. 4 (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991–), 1598.*
 - b. "in brotherly love." That is *philadelphia* in Greek, the word for love being combined with the word for brother. *James Montgomery Boice, Romans: The New Humanity, vol. 4 (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991–), 1598.*

B. Scripture

1. John 13:35 (NKJV) By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
2. 1 John 5:1 (NKJV) Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.
3. 1 John 4:20 (NKJV) If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?
4. 1 Thessalonians 4:9 (NKJV) But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;
5. 1 John 2:9 (NKJV) He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. 10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. 11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
6. 1 John 3:10 (NKJV) In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.
7. 1 John 3:17 (NKJV) But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his

brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.

II. In honour preferring one another

A. Defined

1. The exhortation is directed against the conceit by which we assert ourselves above others *John Murray, The Epistle to the Romans – Volume II, (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1997), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, 129.*
2. “Set an example for others by honoring and respecting one another.” *James Montgomery Boice, Romans: The New Humanity, vol. 4 (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991–).*
3. Unfortunately, if we look at today’s church, we must conclude that the exact opposite is more often the case. Instead of thinking about and appreciating other Christians and what they are doing, our minds are usually on ourselves, and we are resentful that we are not sufficiently recognized or appreciated. Therefore we are jealous of other Christians. *James Montgomery Boice, Romans: The New Humanity, vol. 4 (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991–), 1599.*
4. One of the humblest of men was that great saint and scholar Principal Cairns. Someone recollects an incident which showed Cairns as he was. He was a member of a platform party at a great gathering. As he appeared there was a tremendous burst of applause. Cairns stood back to let the man next him pass, and began to applaud himself; he never dreamed that the applause was for him. *William Barclay, Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "The Christian Life in Everyday Action (Rom 12:9-13)".*

B. Scripture

1. Philippians 2:3–4 (NKJV) Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.
2. Romans 12:3 (NKJV) For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.
3. Ephesians 3:8 (NKJV) To me, who am less than the least of all the saints,

this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

III. In diligence not flagging

A. Defined

1. To say that you are going to do something and not do it. To get the reputation of being a flagger is not a good thing.
2. We must not be sluggish in zeal. There is a certain intensity in the Christian life; there is no room for lethargy in it. The Christian cannot take things in an easy-going way, for the world is always a battleground between good and evil, the time is short, and life is a preparation for eternity. The Christian may burn out, but he must not rust out. *William Barclay, Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "The Christian Life in Everyday Action (Rom 12:9-13)".*

B. Scripture

1. John 9:4 (NKJV) I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.
2. Galatians 6:10 (NKJV) Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.
3. 2 Thessalonians 3:13 (NKJV) But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.
4. Ephesians 5:15-16 (NKJV) 15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
5. Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NKJV) 10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

IV. In spirit fervent, serving the Lord

V. In hope rejoicing

VI. In affliction being patient

VII. In prayer continuing instant

VIII. In the needs of the saints partaking

IX. In hospitality pursuing".