

# Discover the Truth About Love

The Bible teaches us that it's God's will for us to help hurting people. In John 13:34-35 (NIV), Jesus says, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Matthew 22:37-39 says, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

The love message is the power of the gospel. It's so simple: Love God and love your neighbor as you love yourself. We often think we need someone to love us, but what we really need is someone to love. And the world is desperate for real love, so it isn't hard to find someone who needs to be loved.

We live in a society that drives people to selfishness. So much of the advertising we see and hear influences us to want more and more and to never be satisfied with what we have. But the more selfish and self-centered we are, the less power we have to do good and help others.



***Order your copy of the Modern English Version Bible on today!***

***Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!***

The good news is we have what we need in Christ to overcome a selfish "What about me?" mindset and lifestyle. We have the power of God's love! It's the answer to every dilemma and problem in our society today. And as Christians, our goal is to represent Christ in the world and show His love.

Love is not just a feeling, a theory or a nice word. It's

action—the way you treat people—what you do for others. Love will always cost you something: time, energy, effort, money, giving up your pride, doing what's right when you don't feel like it, keeping a good attitude when you don't get your way.

Loving the way God loves means you love when there's nothing in it for you; it's all about giving out and not expecting anything in return. We're called to *outreach*, not *in-reach*. Real love is about dying to self and living to love others.

Now, you must understand that before you can love others, you have to experience God's love in your own life, because you can't give away something you don't have. Then you have to be willing to ask God to teach you to love the way He loves. When you do this, God will enable you to reach out and help someone else. I know this works because I've lived it.

***Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!***

I used to be selfish, self-centered, always thinking about how I could get my way. And I was miserable. I loved God and wanted to love people, but no matter how hard I tried to be sweet and nice to everybody, all of my trying was getting me nowhere. I was cranky, hard to get along with and impatient. God showed me the problem was that I didn't like myself because of the shame of my past. I grew up in an abusive home, and I felt guilty, condemned and ashamed because of it. I had to accept God's love for me before I could love anyone else.

So I decided to study God's love in the Word, pray for Him to change my heart, and confess what His Word says about His love for me. Every day I would say out loud, "God loves me," and I would say it over and over to purposely keep this truth in my heart throughout the day. After a year of doing this, I finally got a revelation about God's love for me.

Now I am able to receive God's love and love others the way

Jesus taught us to love. I don't do it perfectly all the time, but I've come a long way and am making progress every day. My prayer is, "God, show me how I can help others. Make me a blessing everywhere I go. I want to live to love You and others."

Every day I look for ways to add value to people I come in contact with. I can honestly say that learning how to love others with God's love has made me the happiest I've ever been! The truth is, you can't be selfish and also be happy or have peace.

Make it your goal each day to pursue God's love and then give it away. First Corinthians 14:1a (AMPC) says to "eagerly pursue *and* seek to acquire [this] love [make it your aim, your great quest]." So go after it with all your might, and ask God to make you a blessing everywhere you go. You can do something to help someone. You can live to love, just like Jesus.

***Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!***

*For more on this topic, order Joyce's three-part teaching resource "What Is Love?" You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, "Enjoying Everyday Life," by calling 800-727-9673 or visiting .*

*Joyce Meyer is a New York Times best-selling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including "Battlefield of the Mind" and "Overcoming Every Problem" (FaithWords). She hosts the "Enjoying Everyday Life" radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit .*

*Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.*

---

# Discover God's Will for Your Life

Marilyn Hickey loves to mentor people. She's been a school teacher, a pastor's wife and a Bible teacher, and she wants to pass on her mantle and raise everyone into the wonderful potential that God has for them.

Years ago, a woman mentored Marilyn, showing her valuable things that have sustained her to this day. Sharing her wisdom, Marilyn has compiled a wonderful resource, "Mentored by Marilyn," that discusses the will of God.

It's challenging to consider what God's will is for you. Sometimes you feel confused and people tell you different things, your circumstances can change and your health can be a challenge. But with God's help, you can figure it out.

***Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up to date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!***

Do you want to know God's will for you? Do you want to get God's best for your life—the plan He has for you? You need to understand that there's the perfect will of God, permissive will of God and the overriding will of God. Sometimes God will move in a situation and override what's happening.

An illustration of God's overriding will is in the story of Balaam (Num. 22-24). Balaam was an iffy believer, up one day and down the next. He loved money. Balaam got a call from Balak to come and curse the Israelites. He wasn't going to do it, but Balak offered him a lot of money. Balaam started to

go, but we see the overriding will of God when his donkey gives him a hard time, crushing his foot against a wall. Balaam cursed the donkey, and the donkey talked back to him, saying, "Don't treat me like this; I've been a good donkey to you." So Balaam went to Balak and told him he would not say anything except what God said. Balaam looked down at the Israelites and instead of cursing them, he blessed them. The tribes were camped in a cross, and you cannot curse what God has blessed. (If you had a curse and gave it to Jesus and the cross, then when the curse came, the cross would have already taken it for you. So when you accept curses, you are accepting things that Jesus already took for you.) Like Balaam, you have a supernatural, loving heavenly Father who will override circumstances to get you in His will.

One of the most exciting things about having a relationship with God is to know His will for you. You need to know the sovereign will of God, the moral will of God and His individual will for you. You're not an accident', ' you're a divine appointment. God's plan for each person is unique. Want proof? Read Psalm 139 to be convinced.

***Sign up NOW for a FREE Charisma Magazine Online 30-day trial!***

There are times when you think you blew it and missed God's will. Don't stress, God can create a new beginning for you. He can take circumstances and make them work for you, not against you. You need to learn how to hear God's voice, get to know His Word to be directed by it and practice the power of speaking in tongues. You need to know how to maximize your day God's way to be a high producer.

Do you want to know God's will continually? "Mentored by Marilyn," Volumes One and Two, will help you fulfill your calling and ministry.

***Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!***

**Marilyn Hickey** founded Marilyn Hickey Ministries more than 45 years ago with God's vision to cover the earth with the Word. Marilyn co-hosts a daily television program, "Today with Marilyn & Sarah," reaching a potential viewing audience of over 2 billion households worldwide. Marilyn communicates deep biblical truths in a way that is understandable and practical for everyday life.

**Sarah Bowling** is on a mission to connect every one with the heart of God while loving those who are overlooked, excluded, and ignored. Led by Holy Spirit and anchored in the Word, Sarah seeks to inspire all to know the unconditional and transformational love of God in our daily lives. A Bible teacher, author, international speaker and global humanitarian, Sarah also co-hosts a daily television program, "Today with Marilyn & Sarah."