

**Share:**

- 1) Reread Leviticus 19:18
  - a) Pastor Mark mentioned that at the end of the verse appear the words, "I am the Lord." What importance should we place on these words in light of the imperative command that appear just before them?

**Serve:**

- 1) Is there someone in your life today that the Holy Spirit is guiding you to love, and you are struggling with His guidance? How are you going to respond to His guidance?

**Pray:**

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how He might direct you to express love without condition in your life.

# The Fruit of the Spirit is Love

January 21, 2018

Scripture:

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:22 (ESV)

<sup>34</sup>A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35 (ESV)

From the Introduction:

The words Jesus offers us this morning, the words he offered his listeners, are not a new concept. This principle is grounded in the OT Scriptures, "<sup>18</sup>You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD." Lev 19:18 (ESV)

- 1) Love \_\_\_\_\_
- a) God plants His love in us.
  - b) When we are planted with God's love, we accept the Holy Spirit as our \_\_\_\_\_.

- 2) Love \_\_\_\_\_
- a) God grows His love in us.
  - b) When we grow in God's love, it becomes evident to \_\_\_\_\_.

- 3) Love \_\_\_\_\_
- a) God matures His love in us.
  - b) When we mature in God's love, it becomes evident to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Remember:**

<sup>37</sup>And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup>This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." Mt 22:27–40 (ESV)

**Reflect:**

"We often think of our littleness, when we should remember our Father's almightiness. We bewail our weak love, when we should be grateful for our Father's great love. "Herein is love not that we loved God, but that God loved us." (1 John 4:10) – Author unknown, cited in *The Pentecost*, June 1909

**Seek:**

- 1) In Leviticus 19:17 Moses writes, "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him." The Hebrew verb translated "hate" (*sānē*) also means "to be unwilling." Take a moment to reflect on the last time you found yourself struggling to love someone; what role did your own unwillingness play in the relationship?
- 2) What can you do to overcome that "unwillingness" the next time it occurs?