2 Peter 1:5-7

– Galatians 5:14

"For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall

love your neighbor as yourself."

"Rather, speaking the truth in **love**, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it **builds itself up in love**."

Ephesians 4:15-16

"On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." — Matthew 22:40

"The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

— Mark 12:31

"Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." — Romans 13:10

"The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."

- 1 Timothy 1:5

"And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing."

— 1 Corinthians 13:2

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." – 1 Corinthians 13:13

How do you cultivate

greater and greater love?

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but **only faith** working through love." — Galatians 5:6 (ESV)

... The only thing that counts is **faith expressing itself through love**. — Galatians 5:6 (NIV)

1. Faith and the Origin of Love

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. **God is love**, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

- 1 John 4:15-16

love."

- Michael Green

"God's agape is evoked not by what we are, but by

what he is. It has its origin in the agent, not in the

object. It is not that we are lovable, but that he is

"God's love is his holiness reaching out to sinners; grace is but the price that his love pays to his holiness; the cross is but its victory over sin and death; and faith is but the way in which we bring our worship to him who is holy."

David Wells

"God is not only sovereign; he is a person, in whom love is so much constitutive of his being that he can no more abandon love than he can turn away from holiness."

— D. A. Carson

"...God's holiness, like God's love, is intrinsic to the very being of God; his wrath is not. To put the point another way: God has always been holy, as he has always been love; he has not always been wrathful. But where his holiness confronts the rebellion of his creatures, he must be wrathful (and the entire sweep of the Bible's storyline insists he is), or his holiness is anaemic. Yet for all that he is no less the God of love.

D.A. Carson

1. Faith and the Origin of Love

God Is Love

God's Love Throughout

Ephesians 1:5

"In love he predestined us for adoption as sons

through Jesus Christ..."

1. Faith and the Origin of Love

God Is Love

God's Love Throughout

God's Love to Sinners

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

— John 3:16

"... God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

— Romans 5:5

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." — Romans 5:8

"God, who needs nothing, loves into existence wholly superfluous creatures in order that He may love and perfect them. He creates the universe, already foreseeing - or should we say "seeing"? there are no tenses in God - the buzzing cloud of flies about the cross, the flayed back pressed against the uneven stake, the nails driven through the mesial nerves, the repeated incipient suffocation as the body droops, the repeated torture of back and arms as it is time after time, for breath's sake, hitched up... Herein is love. This is the diagram of Love Himself, the inventor of all loves."

– C. S. Lewis

1. Faith and the Origin of Love

God Is Love

God's Love Throughout

God's Love to Sinners

Go Love Likewise

1. Faith and the Origin of Love

2. Faith and the Outworking of Love

2. Faith and the Outworking of Love

Someone who Is Loved and Enabled to Love

"Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said,

- John 7:38-39

'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

"There is no safe investment. To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything, and your heart will certainly be wrung and possibly be broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact, you must give your heart to no one, not even to an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements; lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket – safe, dark, motionless, airless – it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. The alternative to tragedy, or at least to the risk of tragedy, is damnation. The only place outside Heaven where you can be perfectly safe from all the dangers and perturbations of love is Hell."

— C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves.

2. Faith and the Outworking of Love

Someone who Is Loved and Enabled to Love Someone who Loves throughout

2. Faith and the Outworking of Love

Someone who Is Loved and Enabled to Love Someone who Loves throughout Someone who Loves Sinners

2. Faith and the Outworking of Love

Someone who Is Loved and Enabled to Love Someone who Loves throughout Someone who Loves Sinners Love never ends