

Love, Joy, Peace Patience, Kindness, Goodness Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control I suspect you would never intend this, but this is what happens. When you attempt to live by your own religious plans and projects, you are cut off from Christ, you fall out of grace. Meanwhile we expectantly wait for a satisfying relationship with the Spirit. For in Christ, neither our most conscientious religion nor disregard of religion amounts to anything. What matters is something far more interior: **faith expressed in love**.

Galatians 5:4-6 (MSG)

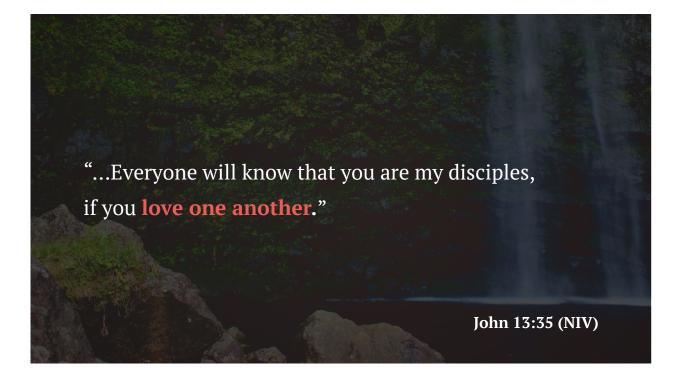
It is absolutely clearand destroy your freedom. **serve one another in love**; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: **Love others as you love yourself**. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?

Galatians 5:13 (MSG)

## Faith expressed in love Serve one another in love Love others as you love yourself

My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness... Why don't you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a lawdominated existence?

Galatians 5:16,18 (MSG)



## The Works of the Flesh

It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; allconsuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on.

Galatians 5:19-21 (MSG)

## The Fruit of the Spirit

But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

Galatians 5:22-23

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 14:16-17, 26 (NKJV)



