

30 Days of Love Verses

A printable month of biblical love

One verse a day. A short reflection. A one-line prayer. The themes are God's love, love for a neighbor, love in marriage, forgiveness, and steadfast love.

Read one day when you can sit still. The line is short so the page still helps when your Bible is in another room. Say the prayer as it is written, or say it in your own words.

Scripture in this printable is from the World English Bible, which is in the public domain.
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John 3:16

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

REFLECTION

God's love is shown in a gift. He gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes has eternal life, and does not perish.

PRAYER

Father, thank you for loving the world by giving your Son.

1 John 4:8

He who doesn't love doesn't know God, for God is love.

REFLECTION

John does not say that love is God. He says God is love, which is why a person who does not love does not know him.

PRAYER

God, teach me to know you by the love you are.

Romans 5:8

But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

REFLECTION

This love does not wait for us to become good first. Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for loving me before I had made myself worthy of it.

Romans 8:38-39

For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from God's love, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

REFLECTION

Paul names the powers that frighten people, including death, and says none of them can separate us from God's love in Christ.

PRAYER

Hold me in the love that death itself cannot break.

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment. He who fears is not made perfect in love.

REFLECTION

Fear expects punishment. John says perfect love sends that fear out, because the love has been made complete.

PRAYER

Cast out the fear that still expects you to turn away.

Lamentations 3:22-23

It is because of Yahweh's loving kindnesses that we are not consumed, because his compassion doesn't fail. They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.

REFLECTION

The poet is in a ruined city, and still says the people are not consumed. The LORD's compassion is new every morning.

PRAYER

Meet me again this morning with mercy that does not fail.

Psalm 136:1

Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good; for his loving kindness endures forever.

REFLECTION

The psalm tells the people to give thanks because the LORD is good, and then gives the reason: his loving kindness endures forever.

PRAYER

I thank you that your loving kindness does not run out.

Psalm 103:8

Yahweh is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness.

REFLECTION

The psalm describes the LORD as merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness. That is his way with his people.

PRAYER

Be to me what this verse says you are: merciful and slow to anger.

Psalm 36:5

Your loving kindness, Yahweh, is in the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

REFLECTION

The singer measures God's loving kindness by the heavens and his faithfulness by the sky. It is larger than the trouble underneath it.

PRAYER

Let your loving kindness be the size I remember today.

Deuteronomy 6:5

You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.

REFLECTION

Israel is told to love the LORD with heart, soul, and might. The command takes the whole person, not a spare hour.

PRAYER

I love you with the heart, the soul, and the strength I have today.

Matthew 22:39

A second likewise is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

REFLECTION

Jesus sets a second command beside love for God: love your neighbor as yourself. The neighbor is a real person, not an idea.

PRAYER

Show me the neighbor in front of me, and help me love them.

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also love one another.

REFLECTION

On the night before the cross, Jesus gives this command. The measure is the way he has loved his disciples, not the feeling of the moment.

PRAYER

Let the love I give be the love I have received from you.

Matthew 5:44

But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you.

REFLECTION

Jesus tells his hearers to love enemies, to bless, to do good, and to pray for the people who mistreat them.

PRAYER

I pray for the person I do not want to pray for.

1 John 3:18

My little children, let's not love in word only, or with the tongue only, but in deed and truth.

REFLECTION

John tells the church not to leave love in talk. Love belongs in what is done, and in what is true.

PRAYER

Move my love out of words and into what I do today.

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

REFLECTION

Jesus names the greater love as a life laid down for friends. He is about to do that himself.

PRAYER

Thank you for laying your life down. Teach me a love that costs something.

1 Corinthians 13:4

Love is patient and is kind; love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud.

REFLECTION

Paul begins the portrait here. Love is patient and kind. It does not envy, and it does not boast. The sentence continues in the next verse.

PRAYER

Make me patient and kind where I am tempted to envy.

1 Corinthians 13:5

doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil;

REFLECTION

Paul is still describing love. It does not grab its own way, it is not easily provoked, and it does not keep an account of evil.

PRAYER

Keep me from keeping a list of wrongs today.

1 Corinthians 13:6

doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

REFLECTION

Love does not enjoy what is wrong. It rejoices with the truth, even when the truth costs something.

PRAYER

Help me rejoice with the truth, and not with someone else's fall.

1 Corinthians 13:7

bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

REFLECTION

Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures. That is not a command to call harm by a softer name. It is love that stays and hopes in God.

PRAYER

Give me endurance that still hopes in you.

1 Corinthians 13:13

But now faith, hope, and love remain - these three. The greatest of these is love.

REFLECTION

Faith, hope, and love remain. Paul says the greatest of these three is love.

PRAYER

Let love be the greatest thing I practice with the people I see.

Ephesians 5:25

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the assembly, and gave himself up for it;

REFLECTION

Husbands are told to love their wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for it. The measure is his self-giving.

PRAYER

Christ loved the church by giving himself. Let that be the measure of married love.

Ephesians 5:2

Walk in love, even as Christ also loved you, and gave himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling fragrance.

REFLECTION

The church is told to walk in love, following Christ, who loved us and gave himself up as an offering to God.

PRAYER

Let my ordinary walk today be love, because Christ gave himself for us.

Colossians 3:14

Above all these things, walk in love, which is the bond of perfection.

REFLECTION

Paul has just named compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Love is what binds them, and the verse says to walk in it.

PRAYER

Bind the rest of my conduct together with love.

Ruth 1:16

Ruth said, "Don't urge me to leave you, and to return from following you, for where you go, I will go; and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God."

REFLECTION

Ruth says this to Naomi, not to a husband. It is a promise to go, to stay, and to take the other person's people and God. It is steadfast love, not a wedding vow the story does not make.

PRAYER

Give me love that stays when leaving would be easier.

1 Peter 4:8

And above all things be earnest in your love among yourselves, for love covers a multitude of sins.

REFLECTION

Peter tells the church to be earnest in love, because love covers a multitude of sins. Covering here is not pretending the sin did not happen. It is love that does not abandon the person.

PRAYER

Let my love cover, and not expose, the people you have given me.

Colossians 3:13

bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, if any man has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so you also do.

REFLECTION

The church bears with one another and forgives when there is a complaint. The pattern is the forgiveness already received in Christ.

PRAYER

I forgive as you have forgiven me. Help me where I am stuck.

Ephesians 4:32

And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving each other, just as God also in Christ forgave you.

REFLECTION

Kind, tender hearted, and forgiving. The reason is God's forgiveness in Christ, not the other person's improved record.

PRAYER

Make me kind toward the person I am resisting.

Matthew 18:22

Jesus said to him, "I don't tell you until seven times, but, until seventy times seven."

REFLECTION

Peter had asked whether seven times was enough. Jesus answers with seventy times seven. Forgiveness is not a small account that closes.

PRAYER

Keep me from counting down the times I will forgive.

1 John 4:19

We love him, because he first loved us.

REFLECTION

We love because he loved first. Our love is an answer. It is not the beginning of the story.

PRAYER

I love you because you loved me first. Let that be enough to begin.

1 Corinthians 16:14

Let all that you do be done in love.

REFLECTION

Paul is closing a letter about worship, money, and ordinary church life. Into that work he says to let all of it be done in love.

PRAYER

Let the work in front of me be done in love.