

# Add To Your Faith

## “Love”

Reading—[Romans 8:35-39](#)

Text—[2 Peter 1:3-11](#)

### A. What is the most important thing you have ever done?

1. Climbed a mountain?
2. Built something really big: The Sears tower, a 747?
3. Fought in a war?
4. Got married, had a baby, or saved someone’s life?

### B. According to Jesus:

1. [Matthew 22:35-40](#)—Love God & Love your neighbor
2. [Matthew 7:12](#)—“Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for **this IS the Law and the Prophets.**”

### C. According to Paul:

1. [Colossians 3:14](#)—But *above all* these things put on love...
2. [1 Timothy 1:5](#)—Now *the purpose* of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith
3. [1 Corinthians 13:13](#)—“*The greatest of these is love.*”

### D. The Seven Virtues conclude with Love

1. It is the completion of faith and virtue.
2. *Add to your faith:* virtue, knowledge, patience, self-control, godliness, brotherly love and love!

### E. Definitions:

1. Brotherly love—Philadelphia
2. Eros—Erotic, sexual
3. Storgé—commonality
4. Agapé—a deliberate choice
5. [John 21:16-17](#)—Jesus and Peter, “love—agape” “love—phileo”

## #1 Love from a Pure Heart

### A. PURE--Singular

1. [Matthew 5:8](#)—Blessed are the pure in heart, for they ...
2. Pure Sugar—no additives, no preservatives, ALL Sugar.
3. Love God with all heart soul, mind and strength.
4. Love your neighbor as yourself, but there’s more with this one!
5. Love your enemies! [Matthew 5:44](#)

### B. This excludes some things

1. This kind of love is not sexual, or conditional or selfish.
2. You can’t love like this and not turn the other cheek.
3. You can’t love like this and retaliate, or speak harshly in return.
4. You can’t love like this and be a hypocrite! [Romans 12:9](#)
5. *This kind of love is **ONLY FULFILLED** with virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness and brotherly kindness.*
6. A love [1 Corinthians 13:4-6](#) that “does not envy; does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity,”
7. It is love from a PURE HEART,

## #2 Love from a Good Conscience

### A. Does anyone have a bad conscience?

1. [1 Timothy 4:2](#)—“having their consciences seared with a hot iron”
2. [Ephesians 4:19](#)—some are “past feeling”
3. God gave us feelings for a reason, not only so we could enjoy them, but also so we would know when something is WRONG!

### B. We need Convicted Consciences

1. Love is not a feeling, yet it produces feelings.
2. If our consciences are not trained correctly, our feelings can be misled and love can then be distorted.
3. The right kind of love needs a good conscience.

## #3 Love from a Sincere Faith

### A. Sincere

1. Unfeigned, Undisguised, Unconcealed
2. There is no doubt that no one likes a hypocrite.
3. Even God doesn’t want someone sitting on the fence.
4. [Revelation 3:16](#)—“So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will *vomit* you out of My mouth.

### B. What do faith and love have to do with each other?

1. One word: **EVERYTHING!** Faith: trust, assurance, confidence.
2. Not in the person loved, but in the one doing the loving.
3. WE must be faithful, WE must have **THIS** kind of Love.
4. Just like GOD did. His love is true, so must ours be!
5. [Ephesians 2:4-5](#) God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.