

Studies in Christianity Christian Lifestyle #15

S#1.

Christians are Love

S#2.

Text : **Luke 10: 30-37 , I John 4: 7-17**

A. A series on the character of a Christian could continue on and on.

1. As we have gone through the aspects of the Christian Character we can see that we are supposed to be VERY different from the world.
2. Figuratively, we are called light in a dark world.

Eph. 5: 7 – Therefore do not be partakers with them; **8** for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light.

S#3.

3. As light, we are warned not to participate with those in darkness.

a. **Eph. 5: 11** – Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;

b. We must not only resist being influenced to do evil, we must point it out, **i.e.**, identify it as being unacceptable behavior.

4. **Thus**, there is ongoing strife between the Christian and the world's values.

John 3: 19 – This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. **20** "For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

S#4.

5. Christians must refused to be united with unbelievers in any way.

a. **II Cor. 6: 14** – Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? **15** Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

S#5.

b. I've heard this applied just to marriage, **BUT** it should be applied much deeper broadly to **include** such things as business partnerships, anything that influences and anything that associates the Christian with one who will not become light.

B. This last characteristic of the Christian lifestyle sets us apart more than any other and that is ... The Christian IS love. We'll narrow down broad topic :

S#6

1. Christians love God.
2. Christians love others .. neighbors
3. Christians love self.
4. Christians love the unborn
5. Christians love the lost.

I. Christians love God. (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit)**S#7.****A. We Christians all seek to be godly people.**

1. God is love.

I John 4: 8 – The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

S#8.

2. Thus, if one wants to be godly, he must be loving.

I John 4:16 – We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

B. In fact, Jesus said loving God was the most important thing we could do.

Matt. 22: 37 – 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.' **38** "This is the great and foremost commandment.

S#9.**C. Love is a word that requires action and God demonstrated His love.**

1. **John 3: 16** – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. **S#10.**
2. **Rom. 5: 8** – But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

D. Is love for God foremost among our values ? *What are we giving to God ?***II. Christians love themselves.****S#11.****S#12.****A. When Jesus instructed us to love God, He also instructed us to love ourselves.**

Matt. 22: 39 – The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

S#13.**B. One's attitude toward himself is the foundation of his attitude toward everyone.**

1. If one cannot respect himself, he cannot respect anyone. (*most important relationship*)
2. As a child my father taught me to be sure to maintain a good relationship with the man in the mirror. "*He'll be with you very day for the rest of your life.*"
3. When one lets someone down who is depending on him, he can see it in his eyes.
 - a. When one has let himself down he has to look into his eyes every day.
 - b. How can an unfaithful spouse look himself in the eye day by day ?

C. When I know I have let God down, I must get it made right quickly.

1. You may fool others, but you know what you are and if you are loving.
2. One tends to evaluate others from his perception of himself.

III. Christians love others ... their neighbors.

S#14

A. Christians share a special bond with other Christians.

S#15.

1. Even when we can't speak their language, we feel the bond.
 - a. I've traveled to 30+ states and 3 foreign countries **and** felt an immediate bond
 - b. Even when people do not understand each other's language, there is a bond.
2. Jesus emphasized the importance of that bond.
 - a. **John 13: 34** – A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, **S#16.**
even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35** By
this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love
for one another."
 - b. There is some observable bonds between us.
3. The bond extends beyond the local congregation.
 - a. **1 Pet. 2: 17** – Honor all people, love the brotherhood, **S#17.**
fear God, honor the king.

B. Not everyone is my brother, but everyone is my neighbor.

1. A Jewish lawyer was trying to test Jesus.
 - a. He ask what was the greatest commandment and Jesus turned the question to him so he replied love God and love your neighbor.
 - b. Jesus said, "*That's right.*" You need to obey those commands.
2. The Lawyer then asked,
 - a. **Luke 10: 29** – But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus,
"And who is my neighbor?"
 - b. The Jews liked to define everything into measurable units. (*Sabbath day journey*)
 - c. His concept would restrict who was his neighbor .. restrict who he had to love.
3. Jesus told the parable of the "Good Samaritan."
 - a. Religious Jews did not love the wounded man.
 - b. The enemy of the Jews, a Samaritan, did help him.
 - c. Being a neighbor requires loving people and having a compassionate heart.

C. Who is our neighbor ? Everyone is my neighbor, especially those in need.

1. What are we doing to demonstrate love to them ?
2. When Judas left the last supper, what did they think he was doing ?
 - a. **John 13: 29** – For some were supposing, because Judas had the money **S#18.**
box, that Jesus was saying to him, "Buy the things we have need
of for the feast"; or else, that he should give something to the poor.

IV. Christians love the unborn. (See end of outline)**S#19.****A. God recognizes the worth of an unborn child.**

1. God's Law provided protection, even for accidental injury to an unborn child.
2. **Exod. 21: 22** – If men struggle with each other and strike a woman with child so that she gives birth prematurely, yet there is no injury, he shall surely be fined as the woman's husband may demand of him, and he shall pay as the judges decide. **23** "But if there is any further injury, then you shall appoint as a penalty life for life, **24** eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, **25** burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise. **S#20.**

B. God is involved in the gestation of an unborn child.

- Psa. 139: 13** – For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. **14** I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. **S#21.**

C. God knows us before we are born.

1. **Jer. 1: 4** – Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, **5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations." **S#22.**
2. **Gal. 1: 15** – But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased **16** to reveal His Son

D. An unborn child can even worship.

1. **Luke 1: 41** – When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **S#23.**
2. Unborn children can respond to many external stimuli.
 - a. The state of Ohio used to give free cassettes of Beethoven's music **because** hearing it was believed to contribute to the development of its brain.
 - b. Children can begin to pick up receptivity to a language in utero.
 - c. They develop certain preferences before birth.
 - d. They feel pain and are affected by drugs taken by their mother.

E. In this era, the right to murder the unborn is protected in our country. **S#24.**

1. In excess of 62 mil. babies have been slaughtered and their body parts sold.
2. This is the most racist aspect of our country.
 - a. As an organization, Planned Parenthood was formed to eliminate blacks.
 - b. Its founder, Margret Sanger, was an affirmed racist.
 - c. 79% of all P. P. clinics are within walking distance of black communities.

V. Christians love the lost.**S#25.****A. Christians love the God who gave His “Only Begotten Son” to save lost people.****S#26.****B. His Son demonstrated the ultimate love by offering Himself as a sin offering for those He knew to be lost.**

1. **Rom. 5: 8** – But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
2. Thus, God made the most dramatic sacrifice possible to save lost people.
 - a. He knew they were rebellious sinners.
 - b. He knew that few people would accept the gift He offer of salvation.

C. If we truly love God, we will accept the baton that He has passed to us.**S#27.**

1. **John 3: 16** – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
2. **Mark 10: 45** – For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

D. God doesn’t require that we die on a cross to save people.

1. God requires that we love the lost enough to give some time to reach out.
Mark 16: 15 – And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to all creation. **16** He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved, but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned." **S#28.**
2. This is not as difficult a command as many try to make it.
 - a. Go ... to pursue the journey on which one has entered, continue one's journey
 - 1) Giving the limited commission, this same word is also translated as “as you go”
 - 2) **Matt. 10:7** – And as you go, preach, saying, ' The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'
 - b. Preach ... announce a message publicly and with conviction. (*not ashamed*)
 - c. You don’t have to be a teacher, but you do have to communicate the gospel.

CONCLUSION :**We have seen that Jesus wants us to be recognized by our love.**

1. We love God.
2. We love others .. neighbors
3. We love self.
4. We love the unborn
5. We love the lost.

Application :

Lesson Text :**Luke 10: 30-37**

30 Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. 31 And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, 34 and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.' 36 Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?" 37 And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

I John 4: 7-17

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 14 We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.

<https://www.babycenter.com/fetal-development-week-by-week>