

# Disciples and Love

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 13.

B. If we are going to be disciples who make disciples, we must establish a credible position among the people we are trying to reach.

C. Love gives us credibility.

## II. Definitions.

A. Love is a broad term in our culture.

B. There is an erotic love.

C. There is a mutual love. The trouble with this is that it de-escalates.

D. There is altruistic love that is based upon a decision.

1. It is an unconditional commitment to a person's well being.

2. It is the love God had for the world.

3. It is much more than liking the world a lot.

III. When it comes to love we are talking about the kind of service that sacrifices. Instead of techniques we need to find credible ways of loving.

IV. Love means forgiveness.

### **Application questions:**

1. Why is it valuable to distinguish the different kinds of love?

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2. How would you characterize divine love?

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3. Why is forgiveness difficult? How is it one of the great acts of love? Explain.

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