

The Secret To Living Like Jesus

Pastor Rick Reager

August 8, 2021

“⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.” 1 John 2:6

“¹ And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.” 1 Corinthians 11:1

“¹ Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children.” Ephesians 5:1

I. WHAT IS THE SECRET TO LIVING LIKE JESUS?

1. LIVE A LIFE OF CONTUNUAL _____

“¹⁶ God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.” 1 John 4:16

“⁹ “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:9-13

Truth About Jesus & Love:

i. Jesus Loved _____

“²⁸ So Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man on the cross, then you will understand that I Am he. I do nothing on my own but say only what the Father taught me. ²⁹ And the one who sent me is with me—he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him.” John 8:28-29

ii. Jesus Loved _____

“⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

“³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” John 13:34

II. WHAT SHOULD MY LOVE LOOK LIKE?

1. IT SHOULD BE _____

“¹⁸ Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. ¹⁹ Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.” 1 John 3:18-19

i. Prioritizing Time _____

“¹ O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water.” Psalm 63:1

“¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.” Romans 12:11

ii. Prioritizing Time _____

“²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:25

“¹⁴ What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don’t show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵ Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶ and you say, “Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well”—but then you don’t give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? ¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.” James 2:14-17

2. IT SHOULD BE _____

“⁹ Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.” Romans 12:9-10

Key: Though Love Is More Than A Feeling, It Should _____

3. IT SHOULD BE _____

“¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command.” John 15:12-14

4. IT SHOULD BE _____ & SHOW _____

“¹ My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others? ² For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting^[b] dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewelry, and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. ³ If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, “You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor”—well, ⁴ doesn’t this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?... ⁸ Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁹ But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.” James 2:1-4 & 8-9

5. IT SHOULD BE _____

“³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” John 13:35

“⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4:7-8

Key: It Should _____

III. HOW CAN I LOVE LIKE JESUS?

1. _____ TO HIM

“²³ Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.” Luke 9:23

“⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4:7-8

Key: To Love Supernaturally, I Must Be Baptized By & Filled With _____

“⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.” Acts 1:8

“³⁸ Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.” Acts 2:38-39

“¹³ For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” Philippians 2:13

2. PRESS INTO _____

“⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4:7-8

“⁵ “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

“¹⁶ I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. ¹⁷ Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. ¹⁸ And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. ¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.” Ephesians 3:16-19

**3. LOOK AT EVERY CHRIST-FOLLOWER AS A _____
& TREAT THEM AS SUCH**

“¹¹ The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you.” Romans 8:11

“¹⁹ Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself.? 1 Corinthians 6:19

4. LOOK AT EVERY NON-CHRIST-FOLLOWER AS _____

& TREAT THEM AS SUCH

“²⁷ So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27

“³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”” Matthew 9:36-38

5. _____ WHO OFFENDS, HURTS, OR SINS AGAINST ME

“²¹ Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?” ²² “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!” ²³ “Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. ²⁴ In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars.^[k] ²⁵ He couldn’t pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and

everything he owned—to pay the debt. ²⁶ “But the man fell down before his master and begged him, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.’ ²⁷ Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt. ²⁸ “But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars.^[1] He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. ²⁹ “His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it,’ he pleaded. ³⁰ But his creditor wouldn’t wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full. ³¹ “When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. ³² Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Shouldn’t you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt. ³⁵ “That’s what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart.” Matthew 18:21-35

“⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

6. _____ MY FRUIT REGULARLY

“²⁰ Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.” Matthew 7:20

“¹² Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear.”
Philippians 2:12

7. MAKE THE DECISION TO _____

“And the most important piece of clothing you must wear is love. Love is what binds us all together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3:14

Key: This Means Maintaining a Constant _____