

apttoteach.org

# THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

**1 John 3:10-17**  
**Lesson #13**  
**Showing your ID**  
**03/27/2022**

## Faith

What Christ did  
**FOR** us



## Fruit

What Christ does  
**IN** us



What Christ does  
**THROUGH** us



2

**We are baptized into a spiritual world but remain in a material world as ambassadors with a calling to love all those whom God loves and died for.**

*2 Pet.2:1*




*Gal.6:10*

Residents of the World of humanity	Residents of the United States of America	Citizens of the Kingdom of God
“Image bearers”	?	“In Christ”

1

“Love is moving toward another person’s soul with a commitment to help them reach the deepest desire of their heart.”

**which is to be fully human - bearing God’s image (finding peace with God, oneself, and others).**



Bell Hooks

3

“the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.”

**Christ For us**

“He abides in us.”

**Christ In us**

“we confess our sins”

**the root Issue**

“love the brethren.”

**Christ Through us**

Our Witness

The Word of the Cross

The Way of the Cross

4

**We reveal our ID with our talk and WALK.**

*1 John 3*

“10 By this **the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious (made visible):** anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother. 11 For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;”

**We ID ourselves (to the eyes of this world) as “children of God” when we display acts of love for all those God loves.**

5

*1 John 3*

“12 not as Cain, who was of the evil one, and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother’s were righteous. 13 Do not marvel, brethren, if the world hates you. 14 **We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren.** He who does not love abides in death. 15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.”

**Christian faith is confirmed within us when we display acts of love toward those around us.**

“You can safely assume that you’ve created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do.”

Anne Lamott



**Agape profile:**

1. **AGAPE** is measured by **self sacrifice** more than its affect on those loved.

*Luke 21*

“1 And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. 2 And He saw a certain poor widow putting in two small copper coins. 3 And He said, Truly I say to you, **this poor widow put in more than all of them;** 4 for they all out of their surplus put into the offering; but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on.”



**Agape profile:**

1. **AGAPE** is measured by **self sacrifice** more than its affect on those loved.

*Romans 12:1*

“I urge you therefore, brethren, **by the mercies of God,** to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual **service of worship.**”



**Agape profile:**

1. **AGAPE** is measured by **self sacrifice** more than its affect on those loved.

2. **AGAPE** is a mark of our **sharing** the Spirit of Christ just as much as confessing our faith .

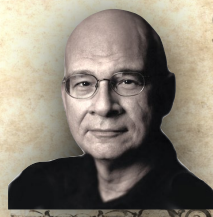
*Galatians 5:22-23*

“But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;”



“When the world sees us doing evangelism, they just see us recruiting. When they see us doing justice, they see God’s glory.”

Tim Keller





“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”



Martin Luther King, Jr.


12

**Agape profile:**

1. AGAPE is measured by **self sacrifice** more than its affect on those loved.
2. AGAPE is a mark of our **sharing** the Spirit of Christ just as much as confessing our faith .
3. AGAPE is manifested most **strikingly** when it is unexpected.

*1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

“Love is patient, kind, not jealous, boasting, arrogant, unbecoming, seeking its own, provoked, keeping score, etc. bears, believes, hopes, endures all things.”




13

**Agape profile:**

1. AGAPE is measured by **self sacrifice** more than its affect on those loved.
2. AGAPE is a mark of our **sharing** the Spirit of Christ just as much as confessing our faith .
3. AGAPE is manifested most **strikingly** when it is unexpected.
4. AGAPE is motivated by **sensitivity** to both the needs of others and the sacrificial grace of God in Christ.

*1 John 3:17*

“But whoever has the world’s goods, and **beholds his brother in need** and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?”



14

*James 2*

“14 What **use** is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but he has no works? **Can that faith save him?** 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is **dead**, being by itself.”

Faith (like love) without action is

**1. USELESS.**

15

*James 2*

“18 But someone may well say, “You have faith, and I have works; **show me** your faith without the works, and **I will show you** my faith by my works.”

19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. 20 But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works **is useless?**”

Faith (like love) without action is

**2. UNSEEN.**

16

*Matthew 5:16*

“Let your light shine **before men** in such a way that they may **see your good works**, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

“show me . . . and I will show you”

**James is not addressing: the validity of faith but the visibility of faith.**

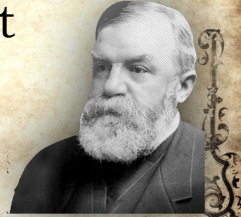
“is useless?”

**James is looking at faith in a practical sense both seen by man and useful in this life.**

17

“A holy life will make the deepest impression. Lighthouses blow no horns, they just shine.”

Dwight L. Moody



18

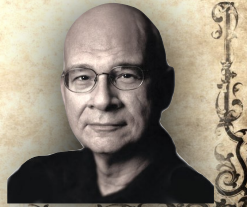
“Spread the Gospel. Using words if you have to.”



19

“When the world sees us doing evangelism, they just see us recruiting. When they see us doing justice, they see God’s glory.”

Tim Keller



20

“If a picture is worth a thousand words, how much is an example worth?”



21

*James 2*

“21 Was not Abraham our father **justified by works**, when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and **the Scripture was fulfilled** which says, “And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that **a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone**. 25 And in the same way was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works, when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also **faith without works is dead.**”

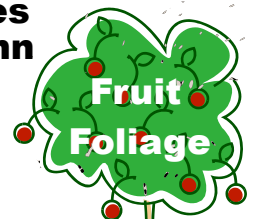
Faith (like love) without action is  
**3. UNSCRIPTURAL.**

22

That which is of use in saving us in this life.

**James & John**

That which justifies before man.



That which saves us in the life to come.



That which justifies before God.


**Paul & Peter**



23



“Morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated. Judicial decrees may not change the heart, but they can restrain the heartless.”



Martin Luther King Jr.

24

“restrain the heartless”      “regenerate the heart”

Both are needed.

Which is the priority?



Focus on systemic reform      Focus on spiritual rebirth


Outside > In      Inside > Out

Flesh      Spirit

Old Covenant      New Covenant

25


“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant.”



Martin Luther King Jr.

26


“Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek but a means by which we arrive at that goal.”



Martin Luther King, Jr.

27

“Your actions speak so loudly, I can’t hear what you are saying.”




Ralph Waldo Emerson

28

The Point

**SHOW your ID.**

We need the visual aid of the **Way of the Cross** to help folks hear the Word of the Cross



29