Things you need – Love

2 Pet. 1:5 -8

**Focal Truth: All believers must practice love to all people**

**The practices Christians need to be useful and fruitful in this world – 1:5-7**

Apply diligence in your faith,

Supply moral excellence to your faith,

Supply knowledge to your moral excellence,

Supply self – control to your knowledge,

Supply perseverance to your self – control,

Supply godliness to your self – control,

Supply brotherly kindness to your godliness,

Supply love to your brotherly kindness.

**The promise when Christians practice these things – 1:8**

If these qualities are increasing, they make you useful and fruitful

**Practicing Christian love in all relationships – 1 Cor. 13**

Love = agape – is a word of sacrificial love, good – will toward others

Evaluate the practice of your love in marriage, family, church, & work relationships based on 1 Cor. 13

1. Speaking without love is just noise – 13:1
2. Knowledge & faith without love has no value – 13:2
3. Giving & martyrdom without love has no profit – 13:3
4. Love is patient
5. Love is kind
6. Love is not jealous
7. Love is not boastful
8. Love is not arrogant
9. Love is not rude
10. Love is not demanding of its own way
11. Love is not irritable
12. Love does not keep records of wrongs
13. Love does not rejoice about injustice
14. Love rejoices when truth wins out
15. Love never gives up
16. Love never loses faith
17. Love is always hopeful
18. Love endures every circumstance
19. Love lasts forever!

**The necessity of Christian love**

1. Love is the perfect bond of unity – Col. 3:14
2. Love covers a multitude of sins – 1 Pet. 4:8
3. Love is the new commandment from the Lord Jesus – John 13:34 -35
4. Love fulfills the law of God – Rom.13:9
5. Love reveals that we are born again – 1 John 4:7,8
6. Love is the fruit of the Spirit – Gal. 5:22
7. Do everything in love – 1 Cor. 16:14

**Things to Remember**

1. How sad it is there is so little love on the earth – marriages, families, churches, work
2. What a joyful place when there is love
3. Christian love is found in the heart of those who are filled with the Holy Spirit
4. Christian love is the fruit of an abiding relationship with Jesus Christ
5. Where there is faith, there will be love
6. Where there is hope, there will be love
7. Love is the greatest because it reveals Christlikeness
8. Love is the greatest because it is the most useful to others
9. Love is the greatest because it makes the Christian useful
10. Love is the greatest because it endures the longest

**Daily Use**

1. Live a life of love
2. Repent of allowing your Christian love to grow cold
3. Ask yourself: Do I practice Christian love?
4. Practice Christian love diligently in your marriage, family, church, work