

**“Discipleship Essentials”
-- five-part series --**

John 13:34-35

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**What does this kind of
love look like?**

I Corinthians 13:1-8

1 John 3:16-19 NIV

**This is how we know
what love is: Jesus Christ
laid down his life for us.
And we ought to lay down
our lives for our brothers.**

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

**Dear children, let us not
love with **words or tongue**
but with **actions** and in
truth.**

There's a love gap in our lives. It's the distance between what we *think* and *say* and how we actually *treat* others.

The intent of this
Discipleship Essentials
series is to help you and
me close this gap

**How did Jesus' life
demonstrate love?**

More specifically, can you think of stories from His life that demonstrate the truth “love is patient”?

Luke 24:13f

Biblical Insight:

Christ-like patience is intensely individualistic and personal even when situations and people are messy

Biblical Insight:
**Christ-like patience is
honest**

Biblical Insight:

Christ-like patience does not ignore a person's problem or deficiency; rather it declares, "you are more important than your issues"

Biblical Insight:

**Christ-like patience looks
for teachable moments
and nurtures open hearts
and minds**

**You cannot hear me if you're
moving away from me**

**Christ-like patience is not
merely the absence of
destructive words and
actions.**

**Godly patience flows from
the inner confidence that
God means us good; that
He is at work for our best
even in the worst of
circumstances;**

**and therefore we can
extend grace to others
since He's extended so
much grace to us**

Mark Finely Story

Bold Prayer

**God, mess with me. Mess
with my comfortable,
predictable world.**

**Change me, my heart—to
be a true lover and love
like You love.**

**Through Your power and
grace help me to close
the love gap between
words and actions.**

**Jesus, through Your power
this week, I choose to close
the love gap by being
patient with . . .**

**I choose to close the love gap by being
patient with . . .**

Family Member • Colleague

Classmate or Teacher

Fellow Christian/Church

Member • Friend • Enemy

God • Self