

DEVOTION 1. [WE LOVE BECAUSE GOD FIRST LOVED US](#)

We love because God first loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. [Gal. 5:6; Jn. 14:21; 1 Jn. 4:9, 19](#)

Love for God and love for neighbour [Matt. 22:37-40; Rom. 13:8-10; Gal. 5:22; 1 Pet. 1:22; 1 Jn. 3:14; 1 Jn 4:7-21; Jn. 13:34-35; Jn. 1:18; 1 Jn. 4:12; 1 Thess. 1:3; 1 Cor. 13:8, 13](#)

The character of the love of God, and how we are to love. [Deut. 7:7-9; Hos. 2:19-20; 11:1; Ps. 103:145:9, 13, 17; Gal. 2:20; Deut. 10:12-19](#)

To love the Lord our God, to love our neighbour, to love one another, to love the world. [Deut. 6:4-5; Matt. 22:37; Lev. 19:18, 34; Matt. 5:43-45; Jn. 15:12; Eph. 4:32; Jn. 3:16-17](#)

Such love is the gift of God poured out in our hearts, but it is also the command of God requiring the obedience, and requires us to be like Christ himself. [Rom. 5:5; 2 Cor. 5:14; Rev. 2:4](#)

DEVOTION 2. [WE LOVE THE LIVING GOD](#)

Our God whom we love reveals himself in the Bible, so we love God with joyful thanks [Deut. 4:35, 39; Ps. 33:6-9; Jer. 10:10-12; Deut. 10:14; Isa. 40:22-24; Ps. 33:10-11, 13-15; Ps. 96:10-13; Ps. 36:6; Isa. 45:22](#)

We love and worship the living God only. [Deut. 4 and 6](#)

We love God with passion for his glory, and if we claim to love God we must share God's greatest priority, which is that his name and his Word should be exalted above all things. [Ps. 138:2](#)

DEVOTION 3. [WE LOVE GOD THE FATHER](#)

Through Jesus Christ, God's Son, we come to know and love God as Father, and the Holy Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. [Jn. 14:6; Rom. 8:14-15; Matt. 6:9; Jn. 14:21-23](#)

We love God, who the Father of His people. [Deut. 32:6, 18; 1:31; 8:5; Isa. 1:2; Mal. 1:6; Jer. 3:4, 19; 31:9; Hos. 11:2; Ps. 103:13; Isa. 63:16; 64:8-9](#)

We love God as the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son for our salvation. [Jn. 3:16; 1 Jn. 3:1; Rom. 8:32; Heb. 9:14; Gal. 2:20; Gal. 1:4-5](#)

We love God as the Father whose character we reflect and whose care we trust. [Matt. 5:9, 16, 43-48; 6:4, 6, 14-15, 18, 25-32; 7:21-23](#)

DEVOTION 4. [WE LOVE GOD THE SON](#)

Loving the Lord Jesus Christ means that we steadfastly affirm that he alone is Saviour, Lord and God. We trust in Christ. [Jn. 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; Heb. 1:2; Col. 1:15-17; Ps. 110:1; Mk. 14:61-64; Eph. 1:20-23; Rev. 1:5; 3:14; 5:9-10; Rom. 2:16; 2 Thess. 1:5-10; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:9-12; Matt. 1:21; Lk. 2:30; Acts. 4:12; 15:11; Rom. 10:9; Tit. 2:13; Heb. 2:10; 5:9; 7:25; Rev. 7:10](#)

We obey Christ. [Lk. 6:46; 1 Jn. 2:3-6; Matt. 7:21-23](#)

We proclaim Christ. [Matt. 16:16; Jn. 20:28; 1 Pet. 1:8; 1 Jn. 3:1-3; Acts 4:12](#)

DEVOTION 5. [WE LOVE GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT](#)

We love the Holy Spirit within the unity of the Trinity, with God the Father who sends him, and with Jesus Christ to whom he bears witness. In the Old Testament we see the Spirit of God active. [Gen. 1:1-2; Ps. 104:27-30; Job 33:4; Ex. 35:30-36:1; Jdg. 3:10; 6:34; 13:25; Num. 11:16-17, 29; Isa. 63:11-14; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Mic. 3:8; Neh. 9:20, 30; Zech. 7:7-12; Isa. 11:1-5; 42:1-7; 61:1-3; 32:15-18; Ezek. 36:25-27; 37:1-14; Joel 2:28-32](#)

At Pentecost God poured out his Holy Spirit as promised by the prophets and by Jesus. [Acts 2; Gal. 5:22-23; 1 Pet. 1:2; Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Jn. 20:21-22; 14:16-17, 25-26; 16:12-15; Rom. 8:26-27; Eph. 6:10-18; Matt. 10:17-20; Lk. 21:15](#)

DEVOTION 6. [WE LOVE GOD'S WORD](#)

We love God's Word in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, and receive the whole Bible as the word of God, inspired by God's Spirit, spoken and written through human authors. [Ps. 119:47, 97; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21](#).

We love the Bible because of the Person the Bible reveals, the story the Bible tells, the truth the Bible teaches, and the life the Bible requires. [Deut. 30:14](#); [Matt. 7:21-27](#); [Lk. 6:46](#); [Jas. 1:22-24](#); [Tit. 2:9-10](#)

DEVOTION 7. [WE LOVE GOD'S WORLD](#)

We share God's passion for his world, loving all that God has made. [Ps. 145:9, 13, 17](#); [Ps. 104:27-30](#); [Ps. 50:6](#); [Mk. 16:15](#); [Col. 1:23](#); [Matt. 28:17-20](#); [Hab. 2:14](#)

We love the world of God's creation, caring for what belongs to him. [Ps. 24:1](#); [Deut. 10:14](#)

We cannot claim to love God while abusing what belongs to Christ. [Col. 1:15-20](#); [Heb. 1:2-3](#)

We love the world of nations and cultures. [Acts 17:26](#); [Deut. 32:8](#); [Gen. 10:31-32](#); [12:3](#); [Rev. 7:9-10](#); [Rev. 21:24-27](#).

Love for all peoples demands that we treat all people with dignity and respect, on the grounds of their value to God in creation and redemption. Such love also demands that we seek to make the gospel known among every people and culture everywhere. [Acts 10:35](#); [14:17](#); [17:27](#)

We love the world's poor and suffering, as God is loving toward all he has made, upholds the cause of the oppressed, loves the foreigner, feeds the hungry, sustains the fatherless and widow. [Ps. 145:9, 13, 17](#); [147:7-9](#); [Deut. 10:17-18](#)

All God's people are commanded to reflect the love and justice of God in practical love and justice for the needy. [Gen. 18:19](#); [Ex. 23:6-9](#); [Deut. 16:18-20](#); [Job 29:7-17](#); [Ps. 72:4, 12-14](#); [82](#); [Prov. 31:4-9](#); [Ex. 22:21-27](#); [Lev. 19:33-34](#); [Deut. 10:18-19](#); [15:7-11](#); [Isa. 1:16-17](#); [58:6-9](#); [Amos 5:11-15, 21-24](#); [Ps. 112](#); [Job 31:13-23](#); [Prov. 14:31](#); [19:17](#); [29:7](#); [Matt. 25:31-46](#); [Lk. 14:12-14](#); [Gal. 2:10](#); [2 Cor. 8:9](#); [Rom. 15:25-27](#); [1 Tim. 6:17-19](#); [Jas. 1:27](#); [2:14-17](#); [1 Jn. 3:16-18](#).

We love our neighbours, foreigners and our enemies. [Lev. 19:34](#); [Matt. 5:43-4](#)

Such love for our neighbours demands that we respond to all people out of the heart of the gospel, in obedience to Christ's command and following Christ's example. [Matt. 5:38-39](#); [Lk. 6:27-29](#); [23:34](#); [Rom. 12:17-21](#); [1 Pet. 3:18-23](#); [4:12-16](#); [Rom. 13:4](#)

We are commanded not to love the world of sinful desire, greed, and human pride. [1 Jn. 2:15-17](#); [Dan. 4:27](#)

DEVOTION 8. [WE LOVE THE GOSPEL OF GOD](#)

We love the good news in a world of bad news. [Gen. 3](#); [2 Thess. 1:9](#)

We love the story the gospel tells. The gospel announces as good news the historical events of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, through which God accomplished his purpose of the ultimate reconciliation of all creation. [Mk. 1:1, 14-15](#); [Rom. 1:1-4](#); [Rom. 4](#); [1 Cor. 15:3-5](#); [1 Pet. 2:24](#); [Col. 2:15](#); [Heb. 2:14-15](#); [Eph. 2:14-18](#); [Col. 1:20](#); [2 Cor. 5:19](#)

We love the assurance the gospel brings. [Rom. 4](#); [Phil. 3:1-11](#); [Rom. 5:1-2](#); [8:1-4](#); [Eph. 1:7](#); [Col. 1:13-14](#); [1 Pet. 1:3](#); [Gal. 3:26-4:7](#); [Eph. 2:19-22](#); [Jn. 20:30-31](#); [1 Jn. 5:12-13](#); [Rom. 8:31-39](#)

We love the transformation the gospel produces, with our saving faith expressing itself obedience, and therefore action. [Rom. 1:16](#); [Gal. 5:6](#); [Eph. 2:10](#); [Jas. 2:17](#); [Tit. 2:11-14](#); [Rom. 15:18-19](#); [16:19](#); [2 Cor. 9:13](#); [Rom. 1:5](#); [16:26](#); [Gen. 15:6](#); [Gal. 6:6-9](#); [Heb. 11:8](#); [Gen. 22:15-18](#); [Jas. 2:20-24](#); [Rom. 8:4](#); [Jn. 14:21](#); [1 Jn. 2:3](#)

DEVOTION 9. [WE LOVE THE PEOPLE OF GOD](#)

Love for one another in the family of God is not merely a desirable option but an inescapable command. Such love is the first evidence of obedience to the gospel, and a potent

engine of world mission. [2 Thess. 2:13-14](#); [1 Jn. 4:11](#); [Eph. 5:2](#); [1 Thess. 1:3](#); [4:9-10](#); [Jn. 13:35](#)

Love calls for Unity. [Jn. 13:34-35](#); [17:21](#)

We urgently seek profound mutual love and humble partnership within the body of Christ across all continents. [2 Cor. 8:13-15](#)

Love calls for Honesty. Love calls for Solidarity. [Heb. 13:1-3](#); [1 Cor 12:26](#); [Rev 1:9](#); [Rev. 3:17-20](#)

DEVOTION 10. [WE LOVE THE MISSION OF GOD](#)

We are committed to world mission, because it is central to our understanding of God, the Bible, the church, human history and the ultimate future. [Eph. 1:9-10](#); [Col. 1:20](#); [Gen. 1-12](#); [Rev. 21-22](#)

God calls his people to share his mission, to be a blessing and a light to the nations, to worship and glorify God for all eternity and to participate in the transforming mission of God within history. [1 Pet. 2:9-12](#)

The cost of our mission. Jesus modelled what he taught, that the greatest love is to lay down one's life for one's friends. [Jn. 15:13](#); [1 Jn. 3:16](#); [Jn. 12:24-25](#); [2 Cor. 12:9-10](#); [4:7-10](#)