



8

2013

«If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?»

(Lk 6:32)



Code of Life

«If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?»

With these words, Jesus asks his followers to imitate God the Father in loving.

If we want to be his children, we have to love our neighbor in the same way that God loves.

But how does God love? What do we have to do to be like him?

The first characteristic of God's love is that it is **freely given**. We have to love **without expecting anything** in return.

Another characteristic of how God the Father loves is that he **loves everyone!** His love is universal. He loves everyone no matter who they are, **without exception!**

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My experience

One of my friends asked to borrow my gym shoes and I lent them to him.

Some time after that, I needed some help on a lesson, so I asked to borrow his notes, but he refused to share them with me.

That same day, he asked me a favor and, remembering with pain that he hadn't helped me even after my act of love, I was tempted not to help him.

It was hard to forgive him. However, I remembered that to love means to have no expectations of being loved in return, so I immediately offered to do what he asked.

(L.M.O.)



And so this month?
BE THE FIRST TO LOVE,
WITH A LOVE THAT
IS GENEROUS,
SUPPORTIVE,
OPEN TO ALL , AND
ESPECIALLY
REACHING OUT TO
THOSE WHO ARE
THE HARDEST TO
LOVE.