

Jesse Rich Ministries

February '04 Newsletter

"Called to reach the World with the Word of Faith"

The God-Kind of Love

Dear Friend and Partner,

God's power is available to all of us as believers in and through Christ Jesus. Christians should be the most powerful people upon this earth. God fully intends for us to rule and reign in Christ Jesus, and to live in complete and total victory in all areas of our lives. Our lifestyles should reflect the blessings and presence of the Lord! Nevertheless, we can't achieve this without a knowledge of God's Word and a constant obedience in doing the Word of God, and obeying the voice of the Lord. Every verse of scripture that we hear and practice is just one more verse of scripture that assists us to be overcomers in every situation of our lives.

Years ago, when I found out about divine healing, divine prosperity, divine protection, divine favor and divine deliverance, I was so excited to learn that I could begin to live in and enjoy victory in every area of my life (physical, spiritual and material). I found this was true because God had promised it in His Word to each one of His children. I can't put into words how related I was to know that I could pray the prayer of faith and God would give me the desires of my heart (Mark 11:24). I began claiming all of my healing, prosperity, tithing and giving, protection, favor and deliverance scriptures, and all other scriptures that promised me personal blessings. But - I never claimed or fully practiced the love scriptures.

One day, the Lord spoke to my heart and said, "Son, all of these scriptures that you're quoting and claiming belong to you, but faith works by love. Son, if I were you, I'd learn to keep my mouth shut. You can't gossip and talk the way you've been talking about

others, and at the same time, expect all these blessings to manifest in your life, such as prosperity, victory, protection and answers to prayers. Unforgiveness and strife hinder your faith and keep it from working. They also stop your blessings and prayers from being answered. Forgive and forget what people have said about you and have done to you, and walk in love"

God's Word teaches us, **And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses (Mark 11:25, 26). And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you (Ephesians 4:32). And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us...** (Ephesians 5:2).

I began to realize that my faith would go nowhere in producing blessings in my life until I learned to walk in the God-kind of love. I didn't know anything about the God-kind of love, so I borrowed an Amplified Bible from a lady who went to the same church as I did. I typed out 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 and every day before I'd leave for work, I would read these scriptures out loud and also make love confessions. This helped me immensely in monitoring my love walk. It was through these verses of scripture, and others like them, that I learned what love does and *doesn't* do.

Every person has *human love*, but only born-again children of God have the *God-kind of love*. "**...the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given to us**" (Romans 5:5). Love is the first fruit of the human spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Like any other fruit, it takes time to grow and develop. I had to learn *not* to return evil for evil, or railing for railing (1 Peter 3:9). I had to learn to bridle my tongue and to *not* spread gossip or rumors about others. I also had to be quick to forgive others by *not* holding aught against anyone (Psalm 39:1 & Mark 11:25). So when Satan would try to attack me with an affliction, I would say to him, "*I'm obeying God; I'm walking in love, and you can't put that on me. I refuse it in Jesus' Name. The Bible says love never fails*" (1 Corinthians 13:8).

We, as believers, are to love everyone, regardless of how they treat us or think of us. When our flesh begins to rise up and we want to tell others off, that's the time we need to stop, put the flesh under, and ask the question, "What would love do in this situation?" The apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Ghost said, "**But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection.**" (1 Corinthians 9:27).

When I was attending Bible school, a minister came and gave a seminar on how to walk in love. For one week, two services a day, he taught on walking in love. It was while I was attending this particular seminar, that a situation arose between myself and a fellow student who was an usher. He publicly scolded me because he felt that I was walking too fast to get a front row seat. I got into a verbal argument that was beginning to turn into a physical fight. I had to be held back by a friend of mine who was trying to keep me from getting into a fistfight. I did just what the devil wanted me to do. I let my flesh get out of control and acted just the way my flesh had always acted before I was saved.

We need to be aware that any subject that we're

taught on from the Word of God is the area that Satan comes in immediately to try to attack. Jesus said in Mark 4:14 and 15, **"The sower soweth the word...but when they have heard [the Word], Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts."** If we're being taught about divine healing, Satan attempts to attack our health. If we're being taught on tithing and giving, he attacks our finances. And, of course, if we're being taught on walking in love, he attacks our love walk. Satan wants to discourage us from growing in faith and receiving our blessings.

When I finally cooled off, I felt so convicted and guilty about the way I had behaved. I knew that I had to repent to the Lord, as well as to the dear usher. I needed to ask him to forgive me. Had I not known those love scriptures, and had I not been taught how to walk in love, I probably would not have felt convicted about what I had done. Therefore, I would not have then repented and apologized. I learned a great lesson that - day: my flesh had to be controlled and ruled by the law of love (James 2:8). There I was attending Bible school and preparing to go into the ministry and I was losing control in front of all of those people. How humiliated and embarrassed I was! But, oh, how relieved I was, after I had repented and apologized!

The Lord has brought me a long way since that day, and He still has a way to go yet. But, one thing I am thankful for is that I made things right with that dear usher and the Lord.

Strife and division in our lives cannot be ignored. If they **do** go undetected and un-confessed, they will eat away and erode our health, joy, peace, protection and blessings. This gets us over into the devil's territory where our defenses are down and we're unprotected. 1 Corinthians 11:31 says, **"For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."** James 5:16 adds, **"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed..."** We all have to use the words, *"I'm sorry... I was wrong... Please forgive me... I got out of love."*¹

The sooner we judge ourselves, repent and confess our faults, and ask for forgiveness, the sooner we qualify for all of the blessings. Just as we can *qualify* for the blessings through obeying God's Word and submitting to conviction, we can also *disqualify* ourselves from God's blessings through pride,

hardness of heart, and being insensitive to our conscience and the voice of the Holy Ghost. We, as believers, are admonished by the Lord not to sin and not to get out of love with one another. But if we do sin and/or break the law of love (James 2:8), we are to confess our sins and do our part to make things right with God and our fellowman. **"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"** (1 John 1:9).

So let's you and I take the love challenge that God has given us and let this be the year that we walk, grow and develop in love, harmony, unity and one accord. For as Jesus said in John 13:34 - 35, **"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."** Let's take advantage of all the benefits and rewards that the Lord lavishes upon those who walk in love!

In this newsletter are scriptures and confessions that I've endeavored to read, confess, and practice ever since that day years ago when the Lord said to me, "Faith worketh by love." I want to encourage you, as my friend and partner in the ministry, to read these scriptures, make the confessions, and above all, put them in practice every day of your life! And together we can grow in love and receive all of our new covenant blessings.

Remember, Love Never Fails!

Your partner in faith and love,

Brother Rich

A PRAYER FOR FORGIVING OTHERS

Unforgiveness and strife in a believer's heart can be the most devastating and destructive weapon the enemy can use against the believer. It severely damages the believer's life, faith, peace, joy and victory. The enemy is very cunning and crafty in taking advantage of those who get over into unforgiveness, strife, bitterness and resentment. Unforgiveness has got to be dealt with and eliminated from our personal lives before sudden destruction, such as stealing, killing and destroying, comes from the enemy (John 10:10). The sooner we practice forgiveness, the sooner we can receive our healing, financial blessings and miracles, and have peace with God.

Please read these scriptures and pray "The Prayer For Forgiving Others," and enjoy your new covenant blessings that belong to you through Christ Jesus. Practicing forgiveness produces the greatest blessings in our lives. God blesses those who turn the other cheek.

Father, You said, "...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" (Matthew 5:44).

Father, you taught us through Jesus how we should forgive others, saying in your Word:

Then Peter came to him and asked, 'Sir, how often should I forgive a brother who sins against me? Seven times?'

'No!' Jesus replied, 'seventy times seven!'

The Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him \$10,000,000. He couldn't pay, so the king ordered him sold for the debt, also his wife and children and everything he had. But the man fell down before the king, his face in the dust, and said 'Oh, sir, be patient with me and I will pay it all.'

Then the king was filled with pity for him and released him and forgave his debt.

But when the man left the king, he went to a man who owed him \$2,000 and grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. The man fell down before him and begged him to give him a little more time. 'Be patient and I will pay it,' he pled.

But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and jailed until the debt would be paid in full.

Then the man's friends went to the king and told him what had happened. And the king called before him the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil-hearted wretch! Here I forgave you all that tremendous debt, just because you asked me to - shouldn't you have mercy on others, just as I had on you?'

Then the angry king sent the man to the torture chamber until he had paid every last penny due. So shall my heavenly Father do to you if you refuse to truly

forgive your brothers" (Matthew 18:21-35 TLB).

You said, "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Mark 11:25,26).

You said, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:31,32).

You said, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Colossians 3:13).

Your Word says, "Never return evil for evil or insult for insult (scolding, tongue-lashing, berating), but on the contrary blessing [praying for their welfare, happiness, and protection, and truly pitying and loving them]. For know that to this you have been called, that you may yourselves inherit a blessing [from God - that you may obtain a blessing as heirs, bringing welfare and happiness and protection]" (1 Peter 3:9 AMP).

God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus to dedicate my life to You with a verbal commitment to practice forgiveness and walk in the God-kind of love. I choose to forgive everybody of what he/she/they may have done to me or my loved ones.

In the Name of Jesus, I purpose to forgive and love everyone. I can do all things through Christ, who gives me the strength (Philippians 4:13). I choose to imitate You by walking in love, that my prayers will not be hindered. I forgive _____ because You have forgiven me!

I remit the sins of those who have offended me, and I will not retain them in my heart (John 20:23). I am free of condemnation and Satan will not get an advantage over me for I am not ignorant of his devices (2 Corinthians 2:10,11).

I refuse to hold a grudge against anyone, lest I be condemned! (James 5:9) In Jesus' Name, I will resist and cast down every thought that Satan tries to bring to me about this matter (2 Corinthians 10:5). That offense, which I refuse to think about and talk about anymore, is now under the blood of Jesus. The subject is CLOSED!

Lord, I ask You to bless purpose in my heart to do him/her/them only good from this day _____ (date).

Thank You, Father, for teaching me how to keep my eyes on Jesus and to walk before You with a clean and pure heart so that I may come boldly into Your Holy Presence at any time with confidence, and without I condemnation, to obtain mercy and find grace to help in my time of need (1 John 3:21; Hebrews

4:16).

Love and Forgiveness Scriptures

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Matthew 22:37-39

forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven

But if ye do not

forgive your trespasses. Mark 11:26

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: Luke 6:37
Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. Luke 7:47

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:34,35

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. ...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13:8-10

To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also...2 Corinthians 2:10

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. Galatians 5:6

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Galatians 5:14

But the fruit of the Spirit is love... Galatians 5:22

Let brotherly love continue. Hebrews 13:1

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. 1 John 3:14

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 1 John 4:7,8

1

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

John 4:11

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. 1 John 4:20,21

A LOVE CONFESSION : A Prayer of Consecration

Heavenly Father, I want to thank You for Your LOVE! I believe that it has been poured out into my heart through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to me (Romans 5:5 AMP). I believe that I am LOVE because YOU are LOVE and you live in me! (1 John 4:16)

I endure long, and I am patient and kind. I am never envious nor do I boil over with jealousy. I am not boastful or vainglorious, and I do not display myself haughtily. I am not conceited, arrogant, or inflated with pride. I am not rude or unmannerly, and I do not act unbecomingly. I do not insist on my own rights or my own way, for I am not self-seeking. I am not touchy or fretful or resentful. I take no account of the evil done to me. I pay no attention to a suffered wrong. I do not rejoice at injustice or unrighteousness, but I rejoice when right and truth prevail. I bear up under anything and everything that comes. I am ever ready to believe the best of every person. My hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and I endure everything without weakening. Your LOVE in me, Father, never fails! It never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end (1 Corinthians 13:4-8 AMP).

I love LOVE to every person, so I act like LOVE would act in all circumstances and situations (Romans 13:8). I do the things that LOVE would do. I love others in deed and in truth. I keep the LOVE commandment and I have confidence that whatsoever I ask for I receive (1 John 3:18,22,23).

I love my enemies. I bless them that curse me and I do good to those that hate me. I pray for people that spitefully use me and persecute me (Matthew 5:44),

Father God, I choose to be willing and obedient to do what Your Word says to do (Isaiah 1:19). I love everyone! I know that I have passed from death unto life because I love the brethren (1 John 3:14).

I practice LOVE everyday so I can walk in divine health. I am not hateful, moody, or sharp-tongued! I am quick to repent and ask for forgiveness when I do wrong (1 John 1:9). I am pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14).

I walk in the spirit, and I do not fulfill the lust of the flesh. I am controlled by the fruit of the spirit which is LOVE, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:16,22,23). I give no place to fear for I have been given the Spirit of power, and of LOVE, and of a

sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

Thank You, Father, for equipping me with Your divine LOVE! I believe the light of Your LOVE is shining brightly in my life and making a difference in the world around me!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

I trust that this booklet has been a real blessing to you by enhancing your spiritual growth, and illuminating and revealing the Word of God to your heart. God honors our steps of faith and helps us to fulfill the commitment we make to Him. As He said, in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."

As you make the decision to walk in love, you are making one of the most powerful decisions you can make as a believer. The Lord will bless you as you walk in love and stay faithful to being a doer of the Word of God (James 1:22).

If I can be of further assistance to you in your life of faith, please don't hesitate to contact me by one of the means listed below. We are partners together in the work of God to reach New England with the Word of faith. Together, we will get the job done in and through Jesus.

If you have a prayer request that you would like me to agree with you about, according to Matthew 18:19, please forward it to me and I'll write you back to acknowledge that I've prayed for you and am standing with you in faith, believing. Your friend and partner Brother Rich

MY PRAYER AND LOVE CONFESSION

Jesus is coming soon!

The Bible says in Ephesians 5:25-27, ... even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

We must do all we can to reach out to others who are lost and without Jesus and to be a witness every day and let our light shine so that other people can see Jesus in us and know that God is real. We want to get as many people into the body of Christ and going to heaven as we can. We don't want to leave anyone behind, and lost without Jesus.

The best way I know of to be a witness and let the light of the gospel shine brightly is to walk in the God-kind of love every moment of every day of your life. Living a lukewarm Christian life sends a mixed signal and can greatly hinder reaching sinners with the gospel. When a believer is not walking in the God-kind of love, it's noticeable to others. It becomes an offense, and provides an excuse for the unbeliever not to become a born-again Christian.

So, it's important for our well-being and the work of God to be a witness to others and to walk in the God-kind of love. Wherever we go, it's important that we always keep in mind that people are always watching us. They need to see that we treat them better than anyone else does. Loving people, being kind and showing respect to those around us can sometimes speak louder than all the preaching in the world and can be an open door to tell someone about Jesus.

The born-again child of God should always stand out and far surpass all of the many religions of the world, because they have the love of God in them, the anointing of God upon them, the power of God with them, and most of all, they have the Lord Jesus Christ in them to be a witness!

Mark the following scriptures in your Bible. Read and meditate on them and put them in action. Read the faith confession at least once a day to help you walk in the God-kind of love.

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13: 34, 35

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3; 13

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13: 8-10

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Galatians 5: 6, 14

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 4: 32 & 5: 1,2

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: ... Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:43-45; 48

A Love Prayer

Father God, I want to thank You for helping me walk in the God-kind of love. I know it's so important to my Christian life that I grow and develop in the God-kind of love. You said in 1 Corinthians 13:13, And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

I don't want to be a stumbling block to anyone – believer or unbeliever. I want to be a godly example of a child of God, walking in the God-kind of love. Jesus said in John 13:34, 35, A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. So I thank You, Father God, for helping me walk in the God-kind of love every day with everyone I'm around. Thank You for helping me to always be kind and tender hearted toward all those who are hard hearted.

God, I ask You to put people in my life who need Your love the most. I want to be a living testimony of Your grace and mercy. I want to be patient to the impatient, thankful to the unthankful, godly to the ungodly and righteous to the unrighteous. I want to be a loving, godly, sanctified person to

everyone in this world. I want the compassion of God to flow out of me to everyone I come in contact with --- sinner or saint, believer or unbeliever. I choose to love every person! There is no one in this world whom I do not love or care for. I don't want any guile, hate or ill feelings in me toward anyone! I choose to forgive and love every person who's wronged me. I choose never to talk against or gossip about anyone.

I want to walk in Your blessings. I know if I walk in the God-kind of love, You will protect me from harm so that no plague shall come nigh my dwelling. I know I will live a long and healthy life, and most of all, I know I'll bring glory and honor unto You by conducting myself the way that You'd want me to.

I thank You for helping me to love everyone and for revealing to me that one who needs You the most! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

My Love Confession

My confession of faith is based on Your Word. According to Your Word, ...the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.²

According to Your Word, I can become and have what I say, for You said, For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall SAY unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he SAITH shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he SAITH (Mark 11:23).

(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and CALLETH those things which be not as though they were (Romans 4:17).

For by thy WORDS thou shalt be justified, and by thy WORDS thou shalt be condemned (Matthew 12:37).

Therefore, in the Name of Jesus, my confession of faith is: I endure long, and I am patient and kind. I am never envious nor do I boil over with jealousy. I am not boastful or vainglorious, and I do not display myself haughtily. I am not conceited, arrogant, or inflated with pride. I am not rude or unmannerly, and I do not act unbecomingly. I do not insist on my own rights or my own way, for I am not self-seeking. I am not touchy or fretful or resentful. I take no account of evil done to me. I pay no attention to a suffered wrong. I do not rejoice at injustice or unrighteousness, but I rejoice when right and truth prevail. I bear up under anything and everything that comes. I'm ever ready to believe the best of every person. My hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and I endure everything without weakening. Your love in me, Father, never fails! It never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end.³

I owe love to every person, so I act like love would act in all circumstances and situations.⁴ I do the things that love would do. I love others in deed and in truth. I keep the love commandment, and I have confidence that whatsoever I ask for I receive.⁵

I love my enemies. I bless them that curse me, and I do good to those that hate me. I pray for people that spitefully use me and persecute me.⁶

Father God, I choose to be willing and obedient to what Your Word tells me to do.⁷ I love everyone! I know that I have passed from death unto life because I love the brethren.

I practice love every day so I can walk in divine health. I am not hateful, moody, or sharp-tongued! I am quick to repent and ask for forgiveness when I do wrong.⁸ I am pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus.¹⁰

I walk in the spirit, and I do not fulfill the lust of the flesh. I'm controlled by the fruits of the spirit, which are love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.¹¹ I give no place to fear for I have been given the Spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.¹²

Thank You, Father, for equipping me with the God-kind of love, and for helping me to walk in love, that the world may know that I'm Your child and a disciple of Jesus Christ, and that Your love never fails. For, Your Word says I can do all things through Christ, Which strengthens me.¹³ And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Scripture references:

¹ Ephesians 5:2	⁸ 1 John 3:14
² Romans 5:5	⁹ 1 John 1:9
³ 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (Amp.)	¹⁰ Philippians 3: 14
⁴ Romans 13:8	¹¹ Galatians 5: 16, 22, 23
⁵ 1 John 3:18, 22, 23	¹² 2 Timothy 1: 7
⁶ Matthew 5:44	¹³ Philippians 4:13
⁷ Isaiah 1:19	

Additional Scriptures to Read on Love :

Psalm 1:1-3; Proverbs 6:16-19;
Matthew 5:43-48; Matthew 7:1-5; Matthew 18:21-35;
Galatians 6:1-3; 7-10; Ephesians 4:11-16; Ephesians 4:25-5:2;
Mark 11:22-26; Luke 6:27-38; James 2:8;
1 Peter 3:1,7-12; 1 John 2:5; 1 John 4:9-12;16-21; Jude 21

A PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

Forgiving Others

Forgiving others is not an easy thing to do, but as believers, it is a must in order for our faith to be productive and for our prayers not to be hindered. Jesus said in Mark 11:22-26, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

And, in the following scriptures, we read: Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye FROM YOUR HEARTS forgive not every one his brother their trespasses. Matthew 18:21-35

...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; Matthew 5:44
For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing,

nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. Galatians 5:6

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. 1 Peter 3:7

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Eph. 4:31,32

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 5:1,2

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Colossians 3:13

The first step in forgiveness is acknowledging that you've got a problem against someone and then going to God about it. The sooner we take the necessary steps to let go of bitterness, unforgiveness or any ill-feelings that we have against anyone, the sooner we are going to be in the will of God. It's not something one can do in our flesh or mind; it's something we do in our heart - our spirit man. We choose to forgive someone from our heart. If we want our sins to be forgiven, we have to forgive others. When our mind reminds us of what others have done to us, we cast down those thoughts immediately. Otherwise, the devil would be ruling our minds with evil thoughts and ill feelings. Just say, "Satan, that's not my thought; I've forgiven them and I rebuke that thought in Jesus' Name." Say that out loud. All thoughts of unforgiveness come from the enemy. Sometimes it seems as though the thoughts come "24-7". To help us, the Scriptures teach us what to do with our thought life: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 10:4,5

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:7, 8

Walking in the God-kind of love and practicing forgiveness - the genuine and true God-kind of forgiveness - can be one of the most difficult things in our lives to practice and maintain. But

this should be the area that we are the best in as believers. Easy to do? No. Important to do and practice? Emphatically yes! Every step out of love into unforgiveness is a step into trouble. There's probably nothing else that will hinder our prayer life or hinder receiving by faith more than unforgiveness.

A Prayer for Forgiving Others

Father God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus to make a personal commitment to walk in the God-kind of love. I've made the decision to love and forgive everyone who has spoken or come against me or my loved ones. I refuse to hold any aught, ill feelings, unforgiveness, strife or discord in my life.¹ I want my heart always to be pure and perfect before You.² According to Your written Word, love never fails; perfect love casts out fear; faith works by love, and the greatest of these is love.³ The love of God is shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Ghost.⁴ Love is the first fruit of the spirit that is to grow and develop in my life.⁵ Above all,⁶ Jesus gave me a new commandment that I love everyone.

So, Father, in obedience to Your Word, I make the decision to forgive _____ . I choose to follow You by walking in Love, that my prayers will not be hindered.⁷ I forgive him/her/them, because You want me to, and also because You have forgiven me! I refuse to hold a grudge against anyone, lest I be condemned!⁸ In Jesus' Name, I will resist and cast down every thought that Satan tries to bring to me about this matter.⁹ That offense, which I refuse to think or talk about anymore, is now under the blood of Jesus.¹⁰ The subject is closed!

God, I ask You to forgive _____ . Lay not this sin to their charge.¹¹ Forgive them, for they know not what they've done.¹² Lord, I remind You that You've forgiven me of all my sins, wrongdoings, faults and shortcomings.¹³ Jesus forgave all those who persecuted and crucified Him, as well as those who personally attacked Him.¹² Stephen forgave those who railed against him and stoned him.¹¹ If Jesus could forgive when they were crucifying Him and Stephen could forgive when they were stoning him, I know and believe that I can forgive anyone who has come against me and my loved ones. This is because I can do all things through Christ, Who gives me the strength.¹⁴

Lord, I ask You to bless _____ .¹⁵
I purpose in my heart to only do him/her/them good from this day forth: ____/____/_____.

Jesus said I can have what I say.¹⁶ Therefore, based on the written Word of God,¹⁷ my confession of faith is the following:

My Confession of Forgiveness

In the Name of Jesus, I'm not moved by what I see,¹⁸ by what others do to me or say about me, nor by how they

treat me. I refuse to be a carnal Christian.¹⁹ I choose to be spiritually mature in the Lord and keep under my flesh.²⁰ If no one else in the body of Christ walks in the God-kind of love, that is none of my business! I know that it's my responsibility as a believer to forgive others and walk in the God-kind of love, no matter how others conduct themselves. I don't hold a grudge or resentment against anyone. I refuse to allow my flesh and carnal nature to dominate me. I refuse to be ruled by my emotions or feelings.

I walk in the Spirit.²¹ I walk by faith and not by sight,¹⁸ and I always walk in the God-kind of love.²² Because I do, I reap the benefits of long life, good health and divine protection.²³ Everything always works out for my good,²⁴ and whatever I do prospers.²⁵ I don't sit in the seat of the scornful,²⁶ but on the contrary, I'm ruling and reigning in this life with Christ Jesus.²⁷ Satan has no place in my life²⁸ because I have no guile in me.²⁹ I love everyone the same with the God-kind of love. I never return railing for railing, and I'm always quick to forgive and slow to speak.³⁰ I'm not easily provoked, and I think evil of no one because my trust is in the Lord and not in man.³¹

Since I operate my Christian life in the God-kind of love and have forgiven everyone of everything, I'm always blessed with the blessings of the Lord. I refrain my tongue from evil, and my lips speak no guile.³² Therefore, my faith is not hindered. By faith, I believe God has heard and answered my prayers.³³ As it is written, For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. 1 John 3:20 - 22

Thank You, Father God, for always helping me to forgive others and walk in love, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture References:

¹ Mark 11:25,26; Jas. 3:14,16	¹⁷ Matthew 4:4
² 2 Timothy 2:22	¹⁸ 2 Corinthians 5:7
³ 1 Corinthians 13:8;	¹⁹ 1 Corinthians 3:3
1 John 4:18; Galatians 5:6;	²⁰ 1 Corinthians 9:27
1 Corinthians 13:13	²¹ Galatians 5:16
⁴ Romans 5:5	²² Ephesians 5:2
⁵ Galatians 5:22;	²³ Deuteronomy 28:1-14;
⁶ John 13:34,35	Psalm 91
⁷ Ephesians 5:1,2 & 1 Peter 3:7	²⁴ Romans 8:28
⁸ James 5:9	²⁵ Psalm 1:3
⁹ 2 Corinthians 10:3-5	²⁶ Psalm 1:1
¹⁰ Revelation 1:5, 1 John 1:7	²⁷ Romans 5:17
Colossians 1:14, Eph.1:74	²⁸ Ephesians 4:27
¹¹ Acts 7:60	²⁹ 1 Peter 2:1; 1 Peter 2:22
¹² Luke 23:34	³⁰ 1 Peter 3:9; James 1:19
¹³ Isaiah 43:25	³¹ 1 Corinthians 13:4-8;
¹⁴ Philippians 4:13	Psalm 118:8,9
¹⁵ Matthew 5:44	³² 1 Peter 3:10
¹⁶ Mark 11:23	³³ John 11:41,42; 1 John 5:14,15

Jesse Rich Ministries - Churches

Each Sunday, join us in Springfield MA, Hartford, CT, and two New York City locations: Manhattan and Brooklyn. You're invited to attend.

All are welcome!

SPRINGFIELD WORD OF FAITH CHURCH

Springfield Sheraton Inn, One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA. (413) 781-1010

Services are at 8:00 a.m. each Sunday morning.

I-91 North, Take exit 4. R at 5th light onto Boland Way. Hotel is on the right.

I-91 South, Take exit 7, go L off exit. The hotel is on your right.

**Service is on the Third Floor. Check Reader Board for exact room location.

NEW ENGLAND WORD OF FAITH CHURCH

Residence Inn by Marriott, 942 Main Street; Hartford, CT 06103. Cheney Room, 1st floor. Phone: (860) 524-5550

Sundays at 9:30 AM. An hour of prayer precedes the service from 8:45 AM to 9:15 AM. Tuesday Night Prayer meeting and Bible Study:

Join us Tuesday nights for prayer from 5:45-6:45 PM and then be blessed by the Bible Study starting at 7:00 PM.

NEW YORK CITY WORD OF FAITH CHURCH

Meetings are held at 5:00 P.M. on Sundays. **This meeting is preceded by Prayer from 3:45 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.

Hampshire Hotel & Suites, 157 West 47th. Street, New York, NY 10036 Senate Room, 10th. Floor, Phone: (212) 768-3700

Directions: West Side Hwy. to 42nd St. exit. Go Left on 8th Ave. to 47th. Street, Hotel is between 6th. & 7th. Avenue.

BROOKLYN WORD OF FAITH CHURCH

Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. on Mondays. **This meeting is preceded by Prayer from 5:45 P.M. to 6:45 P.M.

Best Western Gregory Hotel, 8315 4th. Avenue, Brooklyn, NY [Lower Level In Pavilion A] (718) 238-3737

DIRECTIONS: Subway: Take the R Train towards 95th St. in Bay Ridge. Get off on 86th. Hotel is on corner of 86th and 4th.

~OFFERING FORM~

--How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! Romans 10:14,15

Brother Rich,

I'm excited about being a partner with God's work and helping you get the Word of faith message out to ***all of the world.***

I want to share in the outreach of Jesse Rich Ministries. Enclosed is my tithe/ freewill offering of -

\$5 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$250 \$500 \$1000

Other _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Malachi 3 : 10-12; Mark 10 : 29,30; 2 Corinthians 9 : 6-11; & Luke 6 : 38: ***Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.***