Prayers for Growing a Life of Love

In his book, *Fruit-full Living: A Guide for Growing in God's Spirit,* Dr. Allen R. Hunt, senior pastor at Mount Pisgah Church in Alpharetta, Georgia, shares 10 tips for growing a life of love.

- 1. Make a list of your enemies and pray for them daily.
- 2. Weekly serve another person who cannot benefit you in return.
- 3. Attend worship more than one time per week and seek to love God with your heart more fully.
- 4. Participate on a mission team to serve persons in crisis.
- 5. Take the first step and seek healing in a broken relationship. Begin with prayer, then show God's healing love with a letter of apology or a gift made in their honor.
- 6. Keep a daily prayer journal to grow your capacity to love. Pray regularly for friends and enemies. Each day list three blessings that you have received from God and give thanks.
- 7. Spend an entire day of uninterrupted time with your family.
- 8. Give sacrificially to a scholarship fund or children's home that is over and beyond your ordinary giving to God's ministries.
- 9. Send prayer cards to 10 persons in prison. Pray for other ways to show one or more prisoners the love of God.
- 10. Spend a morning visiting persons in a hospital who have no visitors. Love others as God has first loved you.

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North Georgia United Methodist Conference 4511 Jones Bridge Circle NW Norcross, GA 30092 678-533-1371 • ddurie@ngumc.org

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April 2006

"...the fruit of the Spirit is love..."

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 God, thank you for loving the world so much that you gave your only Son so that we may have eternal life. Jn. 3:16
2 God, teach us to follow in Jesus' foot- steps and to lead lives of agape love (i.e., a sacrificial love that puts others first.) Jn. 10:1	3 God, help us to minister to others in need who cannot benefit us in return. Luke 10:25-37	4 God, enable us to keep all of Jesus' commandments as a sign of our love for Him. Jn. 14:21	5 God, as your children and as followers of Jesus, help us to abide in your love that flows into our lives. Jn. 15:9	6 God, may we honor the greatest commandment (i.e., to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.) Matt. 22:37	7 God, enable us to keep the second greatest commandment (i.e., to love our neighbors as ourselves.) Matt. 2:39	8 God, help us to love our enemies and to pray for persons who persecute us. Matt. 5:44-45
9 God, teach us to develop a greater capacity to love persons who do not return our love. Matt. 5:43-48	10 God, perfect your love in our lives. 1 Jn. 4:12	11 God, as a sign of our love for you, may we seek to grow in holiness. 1 Thess. 4:7	12 God, may the power of your love, revealed to us through Jesus, transform how we live our lives. Matt. 5:48	discover new and creative ways to grow our capacity to love you and to love others. Eph. 4:14-16	14 God, reveal ways we can bring your healing love to others. Rom. 12:10	15 God, thank you for the love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Rom. 5:5
16 God, all things work together for good for persons who love you and are called according to your purpose. Rom. 8:28	17 God, teach us to be hospitable, loving what is good, prudent, upright, devout, and self-controlled. Titus 1:9	18 God, neither trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger nor sword will sepa- rate us from the love of Christ. Rom. 8:35	19 God, love is patient. Help us to apply this principle in our daily lives. 1 Cor. 13:4	20 God, love is kind. Grant us your attri- butes of forgiveness, friendliiness, com- passion, generosity, and tenderness. 1 Cor. 13:4	21 God, love rejoices in the truth. Empower us to worship you in spirit and in truth. 1 Cor. 13:6; Jn. 4:24	22 God, love hopes all things. May we abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. Rom. 5:13
23 God, love bears all things. Teach us that your grace is sufficient. 1 Cor. 13:7	24 God, love never ends. Enable us to be the loving disciples you have called us to be. 1 Cor. 13:8	25 God, help us to reflect Jesus' love so that all persons will know that we are His disciples. Jn. 13:35	26 God, empower us to resolve conflict and address challenges with a spirit of love and gentleness. 1 Cor. 4:21	27 God, may we pursue love and identify the spiritual gifts with which you have blessed us. 1 Cor. 14:1	28 God, fill us with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Gal. 5	29 God, clothe us with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Col. 3:14
30 God, we pray that all may know the the love of Christ and be filled with all your fullness. Eph. 3:19						www.ngumc.org