

little things BIG DIFFERENCE

“a little agape”

Jim Gerlach jim@ovbc.net 2.15.15 9:30 & 10:50 a.m.

It's often the small things that no one _____ that result in the big things that everyone _____.

- _____ love can change a person's life.

1. God's love is _____ – it's _____ anything else on this earth.

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17b-19

2. God's love is _____.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. I Corinthians 13:4-7

3. Sharing God's love isn't _____ for Christians.

³⁴ A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34

- Agape love is the identifying _____ of a Christian community.

³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

- Scripture commands us to practice the “_____” – 40+ practical ways to share agape.

- Rejoice with one another (*Rom. 12:15*) ● Weep with one another (*Rom. 12:15*) ● Accept one another (*Rom. 15:7*)
- Greet one another (*Rom. 16:16*) ● **Care for one another** (*1 Cor. 12:25*) ● **Serve one another** (*Gal. 5:13*) ● Be kind to one another (*Eph. 4:32*) ● Forgive one another (*Col. 3:13*)
- **Encourage one another** (*1 Thess. 5:11*) ● Fellowship with one another (*1 John 1:7*) ● **Pray for one another** (*James 5:16*)
- Comfort one another (*2 Cor. 1:4*) ● Carry one another's burdens (*Gal. 6:2*)

Next Steps, Week Five: “a little agape - BIG DIFFERENCE”

- ☐ In which of your relationships would a little agape make the most difference?
- ☐ Show someone you don't know the unexpected, unconditional love of God this week.
- ☐ Connect with a HomeGroup tonight.
- ☐ Celebrate the Lord's Supper with your church family next Sunday, February 22.