

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8

1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13

1. He longs to see them

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- 2. He is willing to sacrifice for them

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:17

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And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25

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- 2. He is willing to sacrifice for them
- 3. Paul agonizes over their discipleship

How does this become the way we love one another?

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

"These words of Jesus, 'Even as I have loved you, also love one another,' should be not only a light to us, but they should also be a flame. A flame consuming the selfishness that prevents the growth of holiness. Jesus 'loved us to the end,' to the very limit of love: the cross. This love for others then must come from within, from our union with Christ. Loving and being loved must be as normal to us as living and breathing, day after day until our death."

- Mother Theresa