

Unwrapping Love

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13

14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:14

Compassion should move us emotionally to the point where we even have a physiological response.

When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Matthew 9:36

Kindness is the physical act that follows the emotional response.

18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18

Humility is looking at people in need and saying "your problems are my problems."

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, Philippians 2:3

A gentle and patient person has a very realistic view of themselves which stems from humility.

13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13

14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:12-14

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Jesus willingly chose to put on our clothing to look like us and now he asks us to willingly put on His clothing to look like him.

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:3

If you love yourself, you will never be comfortable in this spiritual outfit. But if you love Jesus, it will be the best fitting outfit you will ever wear.