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## These facilitator notes are for Lesson 15: The Holy Spirit's Love

**"Live our lives as Jesus would." "Enable us to love others."**

### **Galatians 5:22 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)**

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

### **Romans 5:1-5 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)**

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> **and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.**

Canon Ashley says we should "live our lives as Jesus would." The Holy Spirit "enables us to love others." We should have "love for the lost, love for hurting people, love for those around us, love that is willing to lay down its life for another person." **A characteristic of Jesus.**

**Who is Idi Amin?** "In 1971, General Idi Amin overthrew the elected government of Milton Obote and declared himself president of Uganda, launching a ruthless eight-year regime in which an estimated 300,000 civilians were massacred. His expulsion of all Indian and Pakistani citizens in 1972—along with increasing military expenditures—brought about the country's economic decline, the impact of which lasted decades. In 1979, his reign of terror came to an end as Ugandan exiles and Tanzanians took control of the capital of Kampala, forcing Amin to flee. Never brought to justice for his heinous crimes, Amin lived out the remainder of his life in Saudi Arabia." "Once in power, Amin began mass executions upon the Acholi and Lango, Christian tribes that had been loyal to Obote and therefore perceived as a threat. He also began terrorizing the general public through the various internal security forces he organized, such as the State Research Bureau (SRB) and Public Safety Unity (PSU), whose main purpose was to eliminate those who opposed his regime." "When the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) hijacked an Air France flight from Israel to Paris on June 27, 1976, Idi Amin welcomed the terrorists and supplied them with troops and weapons, but was humiliated when Israeli commandos subsequently rescued the hostages in a surprise raid on the Entebbe airport. In the aftermath, Amin ordered the execution of several airport personnel, hundreds of Kenyans whom were believed to have conspired with Israel and an elderly British hostage who had previously been escorted to a nearby hospital." History Channel <https://www.history.com/topics/africa/idi-amin>

**Excerpts from Mother Theresa's address to the 1994 National Prayer Breakfast.**

"But I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself.

And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another? How do we persuade a woman not to have an abortion? As always, we must persuade her with love and we remind ourselves that love means to be willing to give until it hurts. Jesus gave even His life to love us. So, the mother who is thinking of abortion, should be helped to love, that is, to give until it hurts her plans, or her free time, to respect the life of her child. The father of that child, whoever he is, must also give until it hurts.

By abortion, the mother does not learn to love, but kills even her own child to solve her problems.

And, by abortion, the father is told that he does not have to take any responsibility at all for the child he has brought into the world. That father is likely to put other women into the same trouble. So abortion just leads to more abortion.

Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want. **This is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion."**

"Please don't kill the child. **I want the child. Please give me the child.** I am willing to accept any child who would be aborted and to give that child to a married couple who will love the child and be loved by the child."

<http://www.priestsforlife.org/brochures/mtspeech.html> See Priests for Life website for her full remarks.

**"Love beyond our own small hearts." Canon Asheby.**

1. Romans 5 states that 'suffering produces endurance' and character which culminates in hope based on the love given us by the Holy Spirit to stand in grace and love others. Has the Holy Spirit revealed anyone to you that you need his help to love?
2. Why is true love sacrificial in nature?

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**Optional: *I Believe in the Holy Spirit*, Michael Green**

Chapter 6 - The Spirit in the Individual

**The Spirit of Christlikeness – The qualities of Jesus (Pages 111-112)** "The Spirit that rested upon the suffering Messiah rests upon suffering Christians (I Peter 4:14). Just as Jesus' life was the embodiment of God's love, so we find that the Holy Spirit is particularly given to believers to live out God's own love in their loveless lives. 'God's own love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given us,' says Paul in Romans 5:5, and he rejoices to hear of that 'love in the Spirit', which is to be found in the church at Colossae (1:8). **So cardinal a quality is this, so clear a mark of a man being filled with the Spirit of Christ**, that in the middle of his three chapters on spiritual gifts (I Cor. 12-14), Paul sets the crowning gift of love. *One only has to substitute the name of Jesus for 'love' in that chapter to see that the whole thing is a pen picture of Christ's way of life.* **The first and foremost fruit of the Spirit is that outgoing love for others, irrespective of their deserts, which marked the Giver of the Spirit in his earthy life."**

**Exercises:**

- A. Replace 'love' with the name of Jesus. What have you learned about who Jesus is?
- B. Replace 'love' with your name. What have you learned about yourself?

**1 Corinthians 13 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicized (NRSVA)**

<sup>4</sup> *Jesus (my name) is patient; Jesus (my name) is kind; Jesus (my name) is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. Jesus (my name) does not insist on his (my) own way; Jesus (my name) is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> Jesus (my name) does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> Jesus (my name) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*