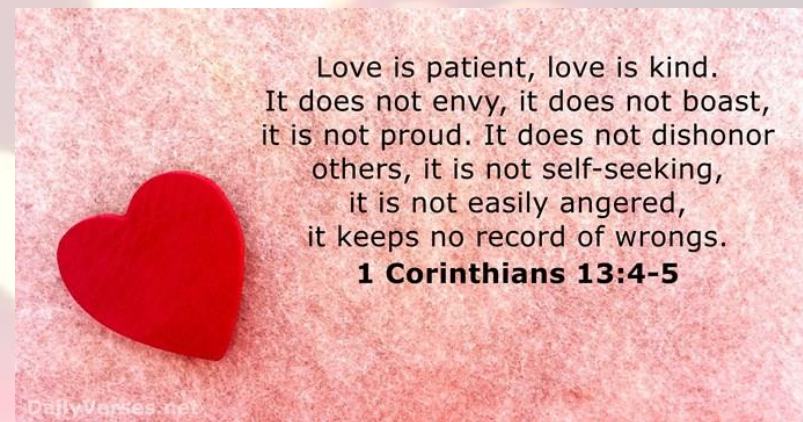


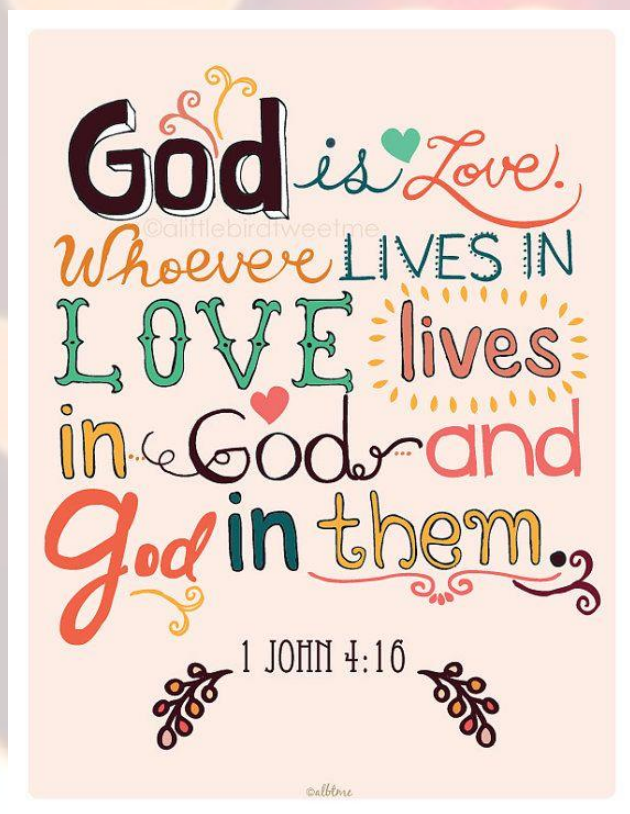
Love



God is at the centre of the Christian faith, and God is love. Living as a Christian means treating everyone with respect and seeing ourselves, others, and the world as equally important as each other.

We live a life that is loving towards everyone, no matter who they are, where they are from, or what they believe, because everyone is made in God's image.

One of the most important lessons in life is how to show love through our attitudes and actions towards other people and the world itself.

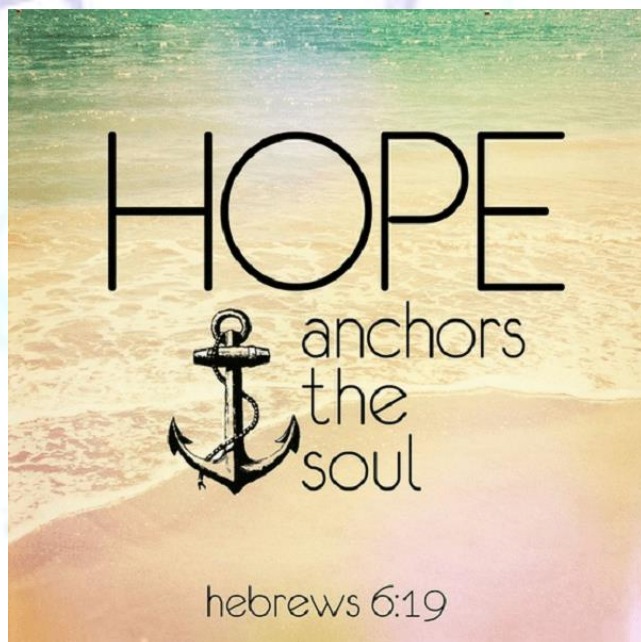




For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord, plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you
hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

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We often say we hope for things. We hope it doesn't rain when we want to go to the beach, for example. But the Christian idea of hope is much more than that. It speaks of an expected outcome based on the belief that God keeps promises and we can live in a joyful confidence of this. Christian hope is set in God, like an anchor in firm ground; we can be sure of its security. It is not wishful thinking, but a firm assurance that God can be relied upon, and in this hope we can live a life helping others to know the same kind of security in life.



Courage is usually understood as the opposite of cowardice. A brave knight might be seen as having courage, for example. But when the bible speaks of courage it goes a bit deeper than that. It has the understanding of strength of character, and of secure standing in one's belief in God; to be determined in what we believe and how we live it out, to persist in the unwavering understanding that God is all we need at the centre of our lives to have inner security and peace of mind.

