

A silhouette of a person stands on a dark, rocky shore, facing the ocean with their arms raised in a gesture of hope or triumph. The background is a warm, golden sunset over the water, with the sun low on the horizon. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

LIVING HOPE
DEMENTIA CAREGIVER
SUPPORT COMMUNITY

Christian
Caregiving
a Way of Life

The logo is a square emblem with a thin brown border. Inside, a thick brown horizontal bar represents a book. The word "Christian" is written in a large, black, serif font above the book. The word "Caregiving" is written in the same black serif font across the book, with the letters "C" and "g" overlapping the book's edges. Below the book, the words "a Way of Life" are written in a smaller, brown, serif font. The entire emblem is set against a dark gray background with a white border. A yellow triangular shape is in the bottom right corner of the overall image.

CHRIST'S LOVE
COMPELS ME
TO LOVE & SERVE OTHERS



1 John 4 (ESV)

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another,

1 John 4 (ESV)

God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment,

1 John 4 (ESV)

because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Main Idea

As caregivers, we embody Jesus' love through service.

God's Love:

The true source

God's Love: True Source

- Caregiving often feels draining - but love replenishes.

*31 but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.
(Isaiah 40:31 ESV)*

God's Love: True Source

- We don't serve from our own strength; we serve from God's supply.

9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

(2 Corinthians 12:9 ESV)

God's Love: True Source

- His love is not earned - it's freely given, even when we feel inadequate.

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 ESV)

- Knowing God means knowing love, and love is active.

18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:18 ESV)

God's Love: True Source

- When we feel empty, we return to the Source.

28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28 ESV)



SACRIFICE & SERVICE

The Fragrance of Christ

Christ's Sacrifice & Service

- Jesus didn't wait for us to be 'easy to love' - He loved us in our brokenness.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. (Romans 5:6 ESV)

- Dementia caregiving often means loving through confusion, repetition & loss.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 ESV)

Christ's Sacrifice & Service

- Christ's love was sacrificial, patient & enduring - ours can be too.

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;[a] 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:4–7 ESV)

Christ's Sacrifice & Service

- We serve not because it's easy, but because it's holy.

23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, (Colossians 3:23 ESV)

- Every act of care echoes the cross.

16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. (1 John 3:16 ESV)

Love Perfects Us



Love Perfects Us

- Caregiving transforms us - it's not just what we do, it's who we become.

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2 ESV)

Love Perfects Us

- God's love matures in us as we persist in compassion.

9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

(Galatians 6:9 ESV)

- Love doesn't just help others - it sanctifies us.

18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV)

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Discussion Questions

- What motivates you to continue caregiving, even when it's hard?
- How does Jesus' love shape the way you care for your loved one?
- What does caregiving teach you about sacrificial love?
- How do you experience caregiving as an act of worship?
- What Scriptures remind you of God's love when you feel weary?

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