

LOVE MEETS OTHERS' NEEDS

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Love others like a true child of God. Just as God sends rain and sunshine regardless of whether people are obedient to him or not, as Christians who regard ourselves to be his children, let's consider other people's needs, not just our own. Try to perceive what their needs are, and then take action to meet their needs.

Meeting one another's needs is an essential element a successful marriage. Husbands and wives should commit to meeting our spouse's needs, not just expecting for our own needs to be met. In the book, His Needs, Her Needs, author Willard Harley lists 10 emotional needs everyone has to some degree or another. He says that these are the needs we seek to find fulfilled in our marriages: Affection, Sexual Fulfillment, Conversation, Recreational Companionship, Honesty and Openness, Physical Attractiveness, Financial Support, Domestic Support, Family Commitment and Admiration. If you are married to someone, your spouse feels a need for some, if not all, of these needs to be met, and you are primarily or even exclusively the person to meet them.

Whether or not you are married, realize that loving another person means meeting needs that person has. This applies to those in our families or those we have less contact with. Here are some other needs people have. Someone you will be with today will need encouragement or emotional support. Another person may need to talk with someone who cares. Right here in our city, whether you see it or not, is a child who needs a meal. An elderly or sick person needs help around the house or yard. As you and I busily go about our activities today, there is another person who needs a ride to the store or just a visit. Someone you know needs you to be concerned for their loved ones. Someone needs a hug. Maybe a small gift of cash that would hardly be missed by you or me would make a big difference to someone today. Give someone a compliment; he or she may need it. Or take a few minutes to spend time with someone today, and you may meet a need you didn't even know existed. These are some examples. Let's love like true children of God and try to be perceptive of others' needs today and try to meet some of them.