



...the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

If asked to name a famous author whose poetry spoke of love and relationships, some may say William Shakespeare. Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright, and actor known worldwide. *Shakespeare: "If music be the food of love, play on."*

Another poet that comes to mind is Elizabeth Barrett Browning, an English poet noted for her love poems. She is most famous for: *"How do I love thee? Let me count the ways."*

Edgar Allan Poe, who is well known for his tales of horror and suspense, also earned the reputation of being a romanticist. *Poe: "We loved with a love that was more than love."*

There is another poet who would never receive the title "Author of Love and Relationships." Perhaps because he is a fictional character, the poet is Winnie the Pooh. The English author and illustrator A.A. Milne created this cute and lovable bear named after his son's teddy bear.

Winnie's quotes may not possess the eloquence and flair of William Shakespeare, but the short and simple messages about love and friendship cut straight to the heart and plant warm thoughts in the minds of children and adults alike. *Winnie: "Love is taking a few steps backward, maybe even more, to give way to the happiness of the person you love." "Any day spent with you is my favorite day. So, today is my new favorite day."*

Yet, the most exceptional and powerful poetry of love that reaches the world comes from the Bible. The King James Version mentions love over 300 times, while other translations contain many more references to love.

There is no greater love than the love from God to us. God wants us to receive and experience His passion and love and, in return, love Him with that same zeal. He desires us to keep the poetry flowing by sharing His love with others.

Bible: "Greater love has no one than this than to lay down one's life for his friends." John 15:13
"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1

Dear Father, thank You for being our first love and making the pledge to love us forever. Your words are poetry to our ears.



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| Scriptures | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| John 3:16 John 15:13 Jer 31:3 | <p>"If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart, I'll stay there forever."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Winnie the Pooh</p> | | | | 1 Give praises, because of God's love, we will have everlasting life | 2 Give praises, Jesus loved us so much that He sacrificed His life for us | 3 Give praises, God loves us with an everlasting love |
| 1 John 4:19 John 14:15 Mark 12:29-31 Rom 12:10 1 John 3:18 1 Corin 16:14 | 4 Give praises; God first loved us and has shown His love for us | 5 Pray that we show our love for God by keeping His commandments | 6 Pray we will love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength | 7 Pray we will have a genuine love for others | 8 Pray we will show others our appreciation for them | 9 Pray we will love God and others through our actions | 10 Pray what we do for others is done with love |
| 1 Corinthians 13 | 11 Pray we realize God is love | 12 Pray we recognize we are an extension of God's love | 13 Pray we will be patient and kind | 14 Pray we will not envy others but rejoice with them | 15 Pray we will exchange any pride with humility | 16 Pray we will not keep a record of being wronged by others | 17 Pray we will help bear the burdens of others |
| | 18 Pray we will believe in the ability of others | 19 Pray we realize it takes endurance to love | 20 Pray we will seek the well-being of others | 21 Praise God for demonstrating perfect love | 22 Pray we realize love binds everything together | 23 Pray we will pursue the greatest gift, which is love | 24 Give praises, one day, we will see God face to face... the love of our lives |
| Romans 8:24-29 | 25 Give praises; nothing can separate us from God's love | 26 Give praises; because of God's love, we are conquerors | 27 Give praises to God by sharing our testimony about His love to others | 28 Pray we realize nothing can compare to the power of God's love | 29 Praise God for His everlasting love | <p>Piglet: "How do you spell 'love'?" Pooh: "You don't spell it... you feel it."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Winnie the Pooh</p> | |