



*He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” Luke 10:27 (NIV)*

What is the Biblical Meaning of Love?

During my recent shopping trip to Walmart, I always find myself pleasantly surprised by the increasing amount of Valentine’s Day merchandise each year. The history of Valentine’s Day stems from the Roman festival called Lupercalia, which celebrated the Roman gods with rituals of purification and fertility, rather than romance as we know it today.

As a single adult praying for my future spouse, all this merchandise reminds me of what the secular world I currently lack. Have you ever paused to consider what God meant by Love?

Nearly 50 passages in the Bible describe how humans should love God. Yet, when Jesus originally answered the religious man, Jesus referenced Deuteronomy 6:4-5, “Hear, O, Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment”- Matthew 22:37-38 NIV.

As humans, we are thwarted by sin. God designed humanity to love and worship Him fully and completely. God loves us so much that he created a rescue and redemption story through sending his son Jesus to Earth to die in our place and take on our sins (John 3:16).

The command calls us to love God fully. Love is both a command and a calling, requiring action rather than passivity! The repetition of heart, soul, strength, and mind underscores total devotion. Loving God extends beyond emotion (heart) or spirituality (soul), but also includes our physical energy (strength) and thoughts (mind). God wants neither a divided allegiance or a compartmentalized faith. He seeks a love that influences how we feel, choose, act, and think. This kind of love acknowledges that God is not merely part of our lives but serves as center and anchor!

When we fully grasp the meaning of loving God, we often take action by loving and serving others more completely, like Christ. We cannot claim to love God while ignoring, mistreating, or devaluing those created in His image. Loving our neighbor involves showing the same care, patience, and concern for others that we naturally desire for ourselves. The fruit of the Spirit will be evident in our lives.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another” Galatians 5:22-

God defines love for us through His character and ultimately through Jesus Himself who demonstrates complete obedience to the Father and shows His love for humanity by selflessly sacrificing His life for our sins. When these loves in Luke 10 are rightly ordered and fully lived, they reflect the kingdom of God and point others to the transformative power of Jesus Christ.

So today, if Jesus appeared to you, and just like Jesus asked of Peter in John 21:15 - asked tenderly, "Do you really love Me?", how would you respond?

Stephen W. Canady, PharmD, CPFI Board Member  
Mooresville, North Carolina



## 2026 CPFI Complimentary Prayer Breakfast

**APhA 2026 Annual Meeting & Exposition**

**Date:** March 29, 2026

**Time:** 7:15 am to 8:30 am

**Location:** Los Angeles Convention Center - Room 518

**Speaker:** Dr. Erin Ballentine

Click to [Sign-up](#) for the Prayer Breakfast when you register for the meeting  
and use the QR code to learn more and RSVP



**Lake Junaluska**

12 HOURS ACPE APPROVED CE AVAILABLE!

# Save The Dates

## CPFI 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & NATIONAL STUDENT RETREAT

**CPFI** Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International  
Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy

NATIONAL STUDENT RETREAT June 3 to June 7, 2026

ANNUAL CONFERENCE June 4 to June 7, 2026

Conference expenses paid by a generous member donor!

The cost of your room, meals, and registration will be paid by a generous CPFI member donor. Travel and other expenses are not included. **Space is limited so register early!**

To register and learn more visit:  
[www.cphi.org/annual-meeting](http://www.cphi.org/annual-meeting)

Registration opens January 5, 2026

Finding Help in an Ever-Changing World.  
Psalm 121




## 2026 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat

### *Finding Help in an Ever-Changing World (Psalm 121)*

National Student Retreat: June 3 to June 7, 2026

Annual Conference: June 4 to June 7, 2026

Pharmacist Registration

Student Pharmacist Registration

Speakers

Schedule-at-a-glance

Conference Full Program

National Student Retreat Program

Lake Junaluska Conference Center

91 North Lakeshore Drive, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

Our conference is currently full. If you would like to be added to our wait list,

please send an e-mail to [office@cphi.org](mailto:office@cphi.org).

*The cost of your room, meals, and registration will be paid by a generous member donor. Travel and other expenses are not included. Space is limited so register early!*

**Access Archives for CPFI Publications**

Connect with [The Faith Script](#) social media!  
(links below)

Christianity & Pharmacy

## Join us for prayer!

**Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 5:00 pm ET**



### Agenda

The CPFI Past Presidents Committee was asked to implement a prayer ministry on behalf of CPFI. In March 2020, we started a weekly Prayer Meeting on Sunday evening at 5 p.m. ET, initially to pray about Covid-19 needs. **We are meeting monthly now on the third Sunday except when the meeting date falls on a holiday.** If you would like an invitation, e-mail Nena Lindrose at [Office@cpfi.org](mailto:Office@cpfi.org). She will send a reminder e-mail with instructions on how to join and some suggested prayer concerns during the week prior to the meeting. We hope you will join us **Sunday, February 15, 2026** for our next session. By signing up you are only committing to participate when able and praying out loud is voluntary.

Fred Eckel, Director Emeritus

Join or Renew

## Support CPFI with your membership!

**rightnow** MEDIA



**RightNow Media** is a tool that can help you live out your faith in every area of your life - at home, at work, and in your community.

CPFI now has a custom library set up for our members! Log in to your Rightnow Media account and from the homepage click on the CPFI custom library tab in the upper right corner of the screen. This will provide suggestions for videos on a variety of topics.

**Sign-up today for FREE!** [click here](#) or text CPFI to 49775. **You must be a member of CPFI to sign up.**

[Learn more about The 1% Group](#)

[Learn more about Power Hour Gift Club](#)

Give Now

## Giving Opportunities

- **1% Group Annual Gift** (membership renewal may or may not be included)
- **1% Group Recurring Monthly Gift** (includes membership renewal)
- **Power Hour Recurring Monthly Gift** (includes membership renewal)
- **Gift** (not recurring)



Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International  
P.O. Box 1154  
Bristol, TN 37621-1154  
Phone: 423-844-1043  
[office@cpfi.org](mailto:office@cpfi.org)

Connect with Us:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[LinkedIn](#)