

Series "Called To Be Saints"
"Real Love"
1 Corinthians 13:1-8
Part-22

Romans 12:9 RSV "Let love be genuine"

Love occurs at least **650 times in the Bible.**

1 Corinthians 12 & 14 Deals with the use of spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 12 Paul spoke of the **Purpose** for the gifts.

1 Corinthians 14 Paul speaks about the **Perversion** of gifts.

1 Corinthians 13 speaks about love. All ministry is to be an extension of His love.

1-3 The Priority of love over everything else.

4-7 The Personality of love (in a very straight forward and helpful way).

8-13 The Permanence of love, the enduring quality of it.

Thought Of Our Passage: "God's Love Must Be Our Priority So That It May Be Seen Through Our Actions, Not Merely Our Words."

1. Verses 1-3 The Priority Of Love

2. Verses 4-8 The Personality Of Love

1. Verses 1-3 The Priority Of Love

1 Corinthians 13:1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels,

Paul had just said this in closing **1 Corinthians 12:31.**

And I show you a still more excellent way.

What did Paul mean? I believe this is **Sacrificial Love.**

The Greeks – Elevated a man based upon what a person knew (intellect).

The Romans – Elevated a man based upon what he could do (his power).

God – Evaluates a man based upon (his character).

Paul Give 5 Examples Of Love Being Better Than:

1. Love Is Better Than Talk: If I speak with the tongues of men

These would be some languages of the world.

and of angels, this is the only time we are told in Scripture of some language of the angels. Language of heaven!

but do not have love, In the Greek language, there were four different words for love.

(1) Phileo – "friendship love."

(2) Eros – "erotic love."

(3) Storgee – "natural affection."

(4) Love/Agape - which is God's love. *Divine love, Spiritual, plane - experienced only by believers. not based on performance, Excellency, true worth, but a love that is a deliberate choice - made without assignable cause save that which lies in the nature of God Himself.*

I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. Noise, thunder, and no rain!

1 Corinthians 13:2

2. Love Is Better Than Knowledge: If I have the gift of prophecy,
The gift of speaking for God, it is more of forth-telling than foretelling.

Notice - **know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith**, Notice the extent of these qualities that is to the fullest.

and know all mysteries - What good is it to be able to expound on the deep things and Not having God's Love!

and all knowledge; (Theology)

3. Love Is Better Than Faith: and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,

but do not have love, I am nothing. A full head with an empty heart is worth nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:3

4. Love Is Better Than Sacrifice: And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor,
Compassion: This is often looked at as a true mark of one who cares.

5. Love Is Better Than Martyrdom: and if I surrender my body to be burned,
Martyrdom is the ultimate sign of dedication.

but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

Priority #1: Love God!

Commandments 1-4 drive us to put God first! **(Ex. 20)**

Priority #2: Love Others!

Commandments 5-10 drive us to love others!

2. Verses 4-8 The Personality Of Love

1 Corinthians 13:4

Paul Gives 16 Properties of Love:

1-3 Deals With Our Relationship To Others:

#1 Love is patient, *suffers long, to be patient with people who aggravate us, rather than with impersonal circumstances (like a red light).*

#2 love is kind, *To be good to those who are irritating you, speaks of actions.*

You can be patient without being kind. Kindness is active; it is actively doing some act of kindness.

Romans 12:18-21

#3 and is not jealous; (Generosity of thoughts) *"to envy not, to be pleased with the success of others who advance, perhaps even at your expense."* **Romans 12:15**

4-16 Our Relationship To Self: #4 love does not brag

"Does not put on a show or parade" to brag about one's abilities or achievements.

#5 and is not arrogant, *To be puffed up, to be proud over one's position and to see oneself as superior to others.*

1 Corinthians 13:5

#6 does not act unbecomingly; (Lacking in courtesy) *Not cutting, sarcasm, respecting the needs of others.*

#7 it does not seek its own, (Unselfish) *To seek "one's own" inflexible, ridged, makes all adjust to self!*

#8 is not provoked, (Bad tempered versus good natured) *to be driven to wrathful anger caused by offense, short fuse.*

Ephesians 4:26-27

#9 does not take into account a wrong suffered, (Don't keep score) *"To think no evil" is to see the best in others and to plot no harm against them.*
1 Corinthians 13:6

#10 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, - *Does not rejoice in the sins or misfortunes of others.* **Proverbs 24:17-18**

#11 but rejoices with the truth; (Goodness) *How? By speaking it, and by walking in it.* **Ephesians 4:15**

John 17:17 "Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth.
2 John 4

1 Corinthians 13:7

#12 bears all things, (Graciousness) *In that it conceals what is displeasing in others.* **1 Peter 4:8; James 5:20**

#13 believes all things, (Confidence) *In that it is not suspicious of the deeds and motivations of others.*

#14 hopes all things, (Assurance) *by anticipating the spiritual good that will result from wrongdoing.*

Hope – *"a sure expectation of a future event"* It is sure, but we don't physically see it!

#15 endures all things. (Endurance) *In that it willingly puts up with awkward circumstances caused by unloving brethren.*

1 Corinthians 13:8 Love never fails;

#16 Love never fails; *In all circumstances and human relationships, when in doubt." Love is never wrong; it's always right to love. Love will always triumph.*

Application:

- 1.** Is God's Love More Evident In My Life This Past Year Through Me Being Easier To Live With? AM I Easier To Be Around?
- 2.** Love Is Patient: It Suffers Long, To Be Patient With People Who Aggravate Us. Am I Able To Handle People More Graciously, More Courteously?
- 3.** Love Bears All Things: God's Love Conceals What Is Displeasing In Others. Do I Conceal What Is Displeasing In Others? **1 Peter 4:8**