

“God’s Love in Marriage”
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Session 3# Marriage Matters Sunday August 12, 2018

“God’s Love In Marriage” Is Only Possible If We Are Born Again!
Romans 5:5

Matthew 24:12; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

The Bible has a lot to say about love; the word occurs at least **650X**.

Agape – “a divine love, that of a spiritual plane – experienced only through conversion through a new nature, an unconditional love – not based upon performance, excellency, true worth, but a love that is a deliberate choice – made without assignable cause except that which lies in the nature of God Himself.”

Romans 12:9 – “Let love be genuine”

1 Corinthians 13 – “The Great Love Chapter;” Note the context.

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

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

Thought Of The Passage: “Loving Is More Important Than Sacrificing And Being Spiritually Active Because God’s Love Is Forever.”

1. Verses 1-3 – Priority Of Love

2. Verses 4-8 – Personality Of Love

3. Verses 8-13 – Permanence Of Love

1. Verses 1-3 – Priority Of Love:

1 Corinthians 13:1 – “If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels,” – Paul had just said in closing 1 Corinthians 12:31 – “And I show you a still more excellent way.” This is God’s Love!

Love Is Better Than Talk: “If I speak with the tongues of men”

“and of angels,” – Language of heaven!

“but do not have love, (Agape) I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.”

Talk should never replace one’s obedience of loving God.

Love Is Better Than Knowledge: (Theology) 1 Cor 13:2.

Love Is Better Than Faith: 1 Cor 13:2 – “and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,” – The practical practice of faith.

“but do not have love, I am nothing.” – A full head with an empty heart.

Love Is Better Than Service: 1 Cor 13:3 – “And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor,”

Love Is Better Than Sacrifice: 1 Cor 13:3 – “and if I surrender my body to be burned,” – Martyrdom is seen as the ultimate example of love and dedication.

2. Verses 4-8 – Personality Of Love:

Paul Gives 16 Point Description Of Genuine Love:

1-3 – Our Relationship To Others:

#1 – “Love is patient,” – suffers long; “to be patient with people who aggravate you, rather than with impersonal circumstances.”

#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 love in action.

#3 – “and is not jealous;” – “to envy not, to be pleased with the success of others who advance, perhaps even at your expense.”

Romans 12:15

Description Of Love – 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.”

#6 – “does not act unbecomingly;” – “not cutting sarcasm, respecting the needs of others” (Courtesy).

#7 – “it does not seek its own,” – “to seek one’s own way, inflexible, ridged, wanting and making all others adjust to oneself.”

Paul saw himself as a “Debtor not Creditor.”

#8 – “is not provoked,” – “to be driven to wrathful anger caused by offense, short-fused,” (Bad-tempered versus good-natured).

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.”

#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; 2 John 4

#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) “not suspicious of the deeds and motivations of others.”

Knows that God can change things, people, even oneself!

#14 – “hopes all things,” – (Assurance) “by anticipating the spiritual good that will result from adversity or suffering.”

Hope – “a sure expectation of a future event” It is sure, but we don’t physically see it!

All Christians should be Optimists.

#15 – “endures all things.” – (Endurance) “willingly puts up with difficult circumstances and unloving people.”

#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.

3. Verses 8-13 – Permanence Of Love:

1 Corinthians 13:8

3 Things Paul says will not last:

1. Prophecy: “but if there are gifts of prophecy,” – Prophecy – it was foretelling, but was more forth-telling – “they will be done away;”

2. Tongues: “if there are tongues, they will cease;” – gift of supernatural utterance to praise and give thanksgiving to God.

3. Knowledge: “if there is knowledge, it will be done away.” – The gift of knowledge is the ability to grasp a great range of Biblical truth.

1 Corinthians 13:9-10 – “but when the perfect comes,” – What is “the perfect?” The Return of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 13:11-13

Application:

1. Are My Relationships Enriched For Knowing And Loving Jesus Christ?
2. “Love Does Not Seek Its Own.” Do I See Myself As A Creditor Or A Debtor?
3. Is My Love Agape Love? Which Is A Deliberate Choice, Not A Feeling, Not Based Upon Performance But A Lasting Love.
4. Because Agape Love Hopes All Things, Am I Optimistic In My Marriage, Family And All Other Relationships?