

**“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 verses 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?