

“Matters Of Love In Marriage”
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
“Marriage Matters” Sunday Aug 5, 2012

Rom 12:9 – “Let love be genuine”

The Bible has a lot to say about love, the word occurs at least 650 times.

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

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

Becoming more loving as people, is more important than being spiritually busy or being active!

1. Verses 1-3 – The Priority Of Love

2. Verses 4-8 – The Personality Of Love

3. Verses 8-13 – The Permanence Of Love

1. Verses 1-3 – The Priority Of Love:

1 Cor 13:1

1 Cor. 12:31 – And I show you a still more excellent way. This is God’s Love!

The Greeks – Evaluation of a man based upon what he Knew (Intellect).

The Romans – Evaluation of a man based upon what he Could Do (Power).

God’s – Evaluation of a man based upon Who He Is In Christ (Character).

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

In the Greek language there are different words for love:

1. Eros – Sexual love – the Greek word by which we get our English word “erotic” – “it’s a receiving, taking love, not so much a giving”
2. Phileo – Human love, affection – brotherly love – human love. (We get Philadelphia the city of brotherly love.)

3. Agape – (1 Cor 13 Love) “a divine love, that of a spiritual plane – experienced only through conversion, 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.”

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

Notice the extent of these qualities is to the fullest: “know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith,”

Love Is Better Than Faith: 1 Cor 13:2

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

Love Is Better Than Service: 1 Cor 13:3

Love Is Better Than Sacrifice: 1 Cor 13:3

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:

Our Relationship To Others: Paul Describes 16 Properties Of Genuine Love:

#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.

#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

Our Relationship To Self:

#4 “love does not brag” – “Does not put on a show or parade, to brag about ones 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"

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

Eph. 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"

Prov. 24:17-18

#11 "but rejoices with the truth;" – (Goodness) How? "By speaking it and by walking in it."

Eph. 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) "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 adversity, or suffering."

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

#15 "endures all things." – (Endurance) "willingly puts up with difficult circumstances and unloving brethren"

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

3. Verses 8-13 – The Permanence Of Love:

1 Cor 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 Cor 13:9-10

"but when the perfect comes," – The Coming of Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 13:11-13

Application:

1. Is My Love A Biblical, Lasting Love, Or A Worldly Disposable Love?
2. Are My Relationships Richer For Knowing And Loving Jesus Christ?
3. Love Does Not Seek Its Own; Do I Still See Myself As A Creditor Or A Debtor?
4. Because Biblical Love Hopes All Things, Am I Optimistic In My Marriage, Family And Other Relationships?