

The Aspects of Love (Part 1)

Introduction

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

1. In order to build up one another, we must demonstrate Christ's love in all of our relationships.
2. The 13th chapter explains that without love, even the most impressive spiritual gifts are meaningless.
 - A. It describes the characteristics of love, stating that it is patient, kind, and not self-seeking.
 - B. The passage highlights that love is eternal and will outlast all other gifts, such as prophecy and knowledge.
 - C. Ultimately, it calls followers of Christ to imitate the love of Jesus by serving and caring for others.
3. This chapter serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of love in all aspects of life and faith.
4. Paul mentions 16 different aspects of love in this chapter. In order to try to properly cover these particular aspects, I will need this Sunday and next Sunday to be able to accomplish that.
 - A. Therefore, the Lord willing, I will be covering the first eight this morning, and then completing the remaining eight next Sunday.

What Love Is

1. Love Suffers Long.

A. It describes a quality of love, emphasizing **patience** and **endurance**.

- 1) The love of God and love for our neighbor is patient toward all people.

Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

James 1:4

B. We must be willing to wait for God's perfect timing. We must have self-restraint. We need to control our impulses.

2. Love Is Kind.

A. Kindness is characterized by benevolence and tenderness.

- 1) A kind person is disposed to help others and to do so with sympathy and consideration.
- 2) Godly love will make a person kinder. No one can be loving and unkind at the same time.

Proverbs 25:11 A **word fitly spoken** is like apples of gold In settings of silver.

Isaiah 58:6-7 Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To **loose the bonds of wickedness**, To **undo the heavy burdens**, To **let the oppressed go free**, And that you **break every yoke**? Is it not to **share your bread with the hungry**, And that you **bring to your house the poor who are cast out**; When you see the **naked**, that you **cover him**, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

Ephesians 4:32

B. Ask ourselves these important questions: “What would this person like?” What does he/she need?” Speak softly and be caring toward others.

- 1) This applies to members of our own families also.
Matthew 7:12**

3. Love Does not Envy.

A. “Envy is rottenness to the bones” (Proverbs 14:30).

- 1) When we crave what someone else has rather than being grateful for what God has given, we hurt ourselves. Instead of envying others, we are called to love them.**

1 Corinthians 3:3 for you are still carnal. For **where there are envy**, strife, and divisions among you, **are you not carnal** and behaving like mere men?

Exodus 20:17 **“You shall not covet** your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.”

Philippians 4:11-12

B. We must learn to be content with what we have. Make a list of our blessings

- 1) Be happy with the goods that others have.**

4. **Love Does not Parade Itself.**

A. **“Love does not parade itself” is a phrase used in the New King James version of the Bible. The NIV and ESV versions record that “love does not boast”.**

- 1) **Being boastful is really a public show or “parade” used in order to gain some form of recognition or attention.**
- 2) **Love that paraded itself would make a long drawn out show of the things it did for others to mark the occasions and it would be pompous or self-important.**

Psalms 34:2 My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

Psalms 49:6-7 Those who trust in their wealth And boast in the multitude of their riches, None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him—

Philippians 3:1-8

B. **We must learn to be humble, not bragging, and giving the proper credit to others.**

- 1) **Remember, it is not “all about us.”**

5. **Love Is Not Puffed Up.**

A. When we say “love is not puffed up,” we mean that love is not proud, conceited, or arrogant.

- 1) **Instead, we are to treat others with respect, as we are made in God’s image.**
- 2) **Figuratively, this term describes bearing one’s self up loftily or haughtily with pride.**

1 Corinthians 8:1 Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. **Knowledge puffs up**, but love edifies.

John 13:14-15 **If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.** For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

Philippians 2:2-8

B. We must not think that we are better than other people. Be modest.

- 1) **Don’t be arrogant or overbearing.**

6. Love Does Not Behave Rudely.

A. The phrase “love does not behave rudely” means that true love is not ill-mannered or expressed in a way that is improper, insensitive, or dishonoring toward others.

1) It involves cultivating a character that consistently reflects kindness and grace, choosing to interact with politeness and affirming others rather than diminishing them.

Numbers 12:3 (Now the man **Moses was very humble**, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

1 Peter 4:9; 5:5

B. We must be courteous and kind. Be gracious and use good manners to all.

7. **Love Does Not Seek Its Own.**

A. Paul was trying to get all to understand that love does not selfishly insist on its own way.

- 1) We see this self-denying expression of love recur in numerous ways throughout his letters: “Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.” (1 Corinthians 10:24)**

1 Corinthians 10:24 Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being.

Acts 20:35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

John 15:13

Philippians 2:3-5

B. We must think of others first. Give someone else first choice.

- 1) Don't be greedy and selfish.**

8. Love Is Not Provoked.

- A. The phrase “love is not provoked” means that genuine love does not easily become angry or irritated.**
- 1) It implies that love works to restrain and control anger, choosing patience, empathy, and understanding instead of reacting defensively or retaliating when faced with displeasure or conflict.**
 - 2) This quality of love reflects a maturity of character, allowing individuals to absorb minor grievances without escalating them into larger conflicts, which is essential for maintaining healthy relationships.**
 - 3) In essence, love promotes tolerance and compassion, rather than quick anger or frustration.**

Matthew 5:22 But I say to you that **whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.** And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Romans 15:2 **Let each of us please his neighbor for his good,** leading to edification.

James 1:19

- B. We need to always think the best of people.**
- 1) Don't jump to conclusions. Ask questions and LISTEN.**

Conclusion (Part 1)

- 1. This concludes part 1 of our study of the various aspects of Love from 1 Corinthians 13.**

