



True Love *endures*

last week's message

The apostle Paul wrote 1 Corinthians 13 to the church in Corinth to address issues such as division, immorality, quarreling, legalism, and pride. The chapter describes how the church was to LOVE one another using 15 action words.

What Love Is (1 Corinthians 13:4a)

- **Love is patient:** The original word used here is translated as “long-suffering” (2 Corinthians 6:6, Galatians 5:22, Colossians 3:12). It is making a choice and a commitment to put love into action towards people like us who are imperfect. Being patient is understanding where the other person is coming from, not reacting, and not easily annoyed with the flaws of others.
- **Love is kind:** Being kind is providing something beneficial to someone in an active act of goodwill. It is being generous in wanting to bless others. Showing kindness is putting yourself in the shoes of other people and empathizing with them, which displays the kindness of God Himself leading others to repentance (Romans 2:4).

What Love is Not (1 Corinthians 13:4b-6)

- **Love is not jealous:** The jealousy described here has something to do with selfishness. This is the same jealousy which brought Joseph's brothers to scheme against him (Genesis 37:11,19-20). Love that is not jealous rejoices with those who rejoice and weeps with those who weep (Romans 12:15).
- **Love does not brag, is not arrogant:** When we brag or become arrogant, we forget that it is GOD WHO OWNS EVERYTHING. Everything we have accomplished or we were able to do or achieve is from God, so the glory belongs to Him (1 Corinthians 1:29, 1 Corinthians 10:31).
- **Love does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own:** Love observes proper decorum. It is being polite and respectful. It considers and care for others. Jesus' model of selflessness and regarding others as more important than Himself is a great example of love that seeks what is good and best for others (Philippians 2:3).
- **Love is not provoked:** Love is NOT easily offended, hurt, or irritated. It responds, not reacts. It does not retaliate and make a big deal out of small things.

this week's memory verse

Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue,
but in deed and truth.

1 JOHN 3:18



True Love *endures*

- **Love does not take into account a wrong suffered:** Love does not keep a record of wrongs. Just as God forgives and remembers our lawless deeds no more (Psalm 130:3 and Hebrews 10:17), we must extend the same grace and forgiveness to others.
- **Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth:** Love does not take part in or highlights things that are not right. It is not sweeping things under the rug, but rather it is making a conscious effort to magnify what is righteous, positive, and true. It means appreciating what is good and not magnifying what is negative about others.

What Love Will Always Do (1 Corinthians 13:7-8)

- **Love bears all things:** Love protects and covers. It does not broadcast sins or failures but chooses to love instead. 1 Peter 4:8 reminds us that love covers a multitude of sins. One can bear all things if that choice is made to love other people despite flaws and misgivings.
- **Love believes all things:** Love chooses to give people the benefit of the doubt (until proven wrong) and believe in the potential of others to improve.
- **Love hopes all things:** Love never gives up. It is always anchored in the power of God to change lives. We trust to see changes because all things are possible with God. We put our hope in Him (Ephesians 1:18).
- **Love endures all things... Love never fails:** Love perseveres in all circumstances. Love is something that will continue in eternity as Paul wrote: “faith, hope, and love... but the greatest of these is love.”

God enables us to love according 1 Corinthians 13 because He Himself displayed this when He chose to love us despite our sinfulness and imperfections. May the love that God has poured into our hearts be truly seen in our actions and stand the tests of time as we endure and rely on His power to love others as He has loved us!

discussion questions

How different is your understanding of what love is as compared to how 1 Corinthians 13 describes it?

How do you rate yourself in terms of loving people based on 1 Corinthians 13? What is the easiest and hardest part for you?

What practical steps can you do to apply what true love is?



join us online

Sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

ccf.org.ph
 /ccfmain
 @CCFmainTV

join us on tv and radio

Sundays

GCTV Channel 185 (Signal)
5:30 AM, 9:30 PM, 2:00 PM, 10:30 PM

One PH Channel 1 (Signal), 8:00 PM

Mango Radio, 9:00 AM

DZAS, 2:00 PM