### THE BESTUSE OF LIFE IS LOVE

	"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all
Matthew 22:37-38	
Mark 1:11	"And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love.'"
Luke 6:35	But love your enemies"
John 3:16	"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son"
Acts 2:44	"All the believers were together and had everything in common."
Romans 8:38-39	"I am convinced that neither death nor life nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God"
1 Corinthians13:13	"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love."
2 Corinthians 5:14	"For Christ's love controls us"
Galatians 5:22	"The fruit of the Spirit is love"
Ephesians 5:2	"Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us"
Philippians 1:9	"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more"
Colossians 3:14	"And over all these virtues put on love"
1 Thessalonians 2:8	"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well"
2 Thessalonians 3:	"May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance."
1 Timothy 1:5	"The goal of our instruction is love."
2 Timothy 2:22	"Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace"
Titus 2:4	"train the younger women to love their husbands and children."
Philemon 1:5	"Because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints."
Hebrews 10:24	"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."
James 2:8	"Love your neighbor as yourself."
1 Peter 4:8	"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."
2 Peter 1:5,7	"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith love"
1 John 3:14	"We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers"
2 John 1:5	"I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another."
3 John 1:6	"They have told the church about your love."
Jude 1:21	"Keep yourselves in the love of God."
Revelation 2:4	"Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love."
4	

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- C.S. Lewis The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses. Wm. B. Eerdmans. 1949
- Lucado, Max Book of 1 Corinthians: A Spiritual Health Check-Up. Thomas Nelson. 2006
- Wiersbe, Warren Be Wise 1 Corinthians: Discern the Difference Between Man's Knowledge and God's Wisdom: NT Commentary. David C. Cook. 2010
- Larry Osborne, Rick Warren 1 Corinthians Messages

## 1 CORINTHIANS AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN LIVING

# WALKING WITH GOD IN CHALLENGING TIMES

\*

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love." 1 CORINTHIANS 16:13-14

### WELCOME TO CORINTH – THE ORIGINAL SIN CITY

CORINTH



- Beautiful
- Coastal Geographical Center of Greece
- Prosperous Athens was the intellectual center,
   Corinth was the business center
- Heavily Populated "Corinth was San Francisco in the days of the gold rush..."
- Strategic Greek culture, Roman power
- Sexually Saturated Temple to Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love
- Center of Entertainment Isthmian Games held in the spring of A.D. 50 (Paul may have attended)
- Trend Setting
- High Taxes

## 1 CORINTHIANS 13 THE GREATEST MARK OF ALL

#### **OVERVIEW OF 1 CORINTHIANS 13**

- The **Power** of Love (1-3)
- The **Meaning** of Love (4-7)
- The Practice of Love (8-13)



## THE PRIORITY OF LOVE (1-3)

The Best Use Of Life Is \_\_\_\_\_\_

14/12	110		101	-
WII	HU	UI.	LUV	/E

All that		s Ine	ffective	
"If I speak in the t	tongues of men or of angels,	but do	not have love, I ar	n

"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal." (v. 1)

#### ... All that I \_\_\_\_\_\_ is Incomplete

"If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge... but do not have love, I am nothing." (v. 2A)

#### ... All that I \_\_\_\_\_\_ is Insufficient

"... And if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing." (v. 2B)

#### ... All that I \_\_\_\_\_\_ is Insignificant

"If I give all I possess to the poor...but do not have love, I gain nothing." (v. 3A)

#### ... All that I \_\_\_\_\_\_ is Inadequate

"If I give all I possess to the poor...but do not have love, I gain nothing." (v. 3A)

## **2** THE MEANING OF LOVE (4-8)

POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	EXPLANATION
1. Love is patient		
2. Love is kind		
	3. Love does not envy	
	4. Love does not boast	
	5. Love is not proud	
	6. Love does not dishonor others	
	7. Love is not self-seeking	
	8. Love is not easily angered	
	9. Love keeps no record of wrongs	
	10. Love does not delight in evil	
11. Love rejoices with the truth		
12. Love always protects		
13. Love always trusts		
14. Love always hopes		
15. Love always perseveres		
16. Love never fails		

## **3** THE PRACTICE OF LOVE (8-13)

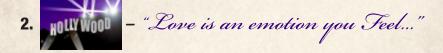
#### How To Really Love God & Other People

1. HOLLYWOOD -	"Love is how y	you make me	Feel'

#### 1 Corinthians - Real Love \_\_\_

"Serve one another in love." GALATIANS 5:13

"As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." JOHN 13:34-35



1 Corinthians - Real Love

"It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (v.7)

Love is not an emotion you feel – It's a

#### **5 Questions to Ask Your Relatives, Friends or Co-workers**

1. Am I?	"Love is patient, love is kind."
2. Do I?	"It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."
3. Am I?	"It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking."
4. Do I have a?	"It is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."
5. Am I?	"Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

3. HOLLY WOOD - "Love is a sensation you Feel..."

#### 1 Corinthians - Real Love \_\_\_\_\_

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." MARK 10:45

"We love because he first loved us."

1 JOHN 4:19

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But **the greatest of these is love**."

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

#### **Prayer Updates**

#### Hospitalized & Surgeries this past week

David Gayley — open heart surgery 7/13

Gloria Harris — broken shoulder, pneumonia & bronchitis

George Pielenz — testing

Gregory Johnson — stroke recovery

Johnie Castro — surgery, 8/2

Jonathan Dryden — testing, 8/3

Judith Hayes — kidney stones

Ramona Bobeda — stent surgery

Recent surgery or hospitalization: Linda Lawrence, Ron Petty

Hospice Care: Mary Reese, Marie Davis, Greg Berry

#### Home with the Lord

Heartfelt love and care are extended to Judge Adriadne "Ari" Symons, in the loss of her mother, **Dorothy Symons**, who died unexpectedly. Please remember her father, John Symons, as he grieves the loss of his wife of 58 years. John and Dorothy especially enjoyed the music when visiting TLC.

We were saddened to receive the news of the sudden passing of Michelle duBos' father, **William duBos**.

#### Need spiritual care and encouragement?

TLC Stephen Ministers are available for one-on-one encouragement when experiencing a loss, such as a death, divorce, separation, unemployment, illness and more. Also, GriefShare groups meet Thursday mornings and evenings. Know of someone in our TLC family in need of these ministries? Please contact us at 831-465-3395 or care@tlc.org.

#### We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 831-465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 831-689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Info Desk.



#### **Daily Meditations**

#### Monday

Please read all of 1 Corinthians, chapter 13. What is one thing you learned about love in last weekend's service?

How do you hope that impacts your relationships with others?

Read over the Bible verses on the back of the sermon notes. Which of these verses is most encouraging to you and why?

Which is most challenging to you and why?

Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible. Pray through 1 Corinthians 13:4–8 and ask God to grow your love to reflect that type of love.

#### <u>Tuesday</u>

Please read 1 Corinthians 13:1–3. Think about the context of 1 Corinthians 13. The preceding chapter is all about spiritual gifts and Paul is addressing the issue because the Corinthian church was struggling with boasting about the gifts God had given them. Paul says that love — not any spiritual gifts — is the hallmark of a follower of Jesus. What about you? What do you often pursue instead of instead of love when it comes to your relationships?

Ask God to help you focus on His love for you and your love for others, the only things that truly last!

#### Wednesday

Please read 1 Corinthians 13:4—7. This is an extensive list of what love is and isn't and it can seem a bit daunting! Which of these aspects of love is easiest for you demonstrate?

Which is most difficult?

How would your closest friends and family answer those last two questions?

Think about what you want your "love reputation" to be. What steps will you take to begin to change your thinking and your actions so you'll be more and more known as a person who loves like God loves?

Thank God today for the training the Bible gives you. Pray about your "love reputation." Ask God to stop your thoughts and actions before you think or act in an unloving way. Pray for eyes that see opportunities to love others.

#### <u>Thursday</u>

Please read 1 Corinthians 13:9–13 & 1 John 4:16–18. Today's passage begins by saying, "love never fails." According to 1 John, what is one thing God's love never fails to do in your life?

What do you fear right now?

How can love — an awareness of God's love for you, and your love for others — cast out that fear?

Thank God today that He knows you completely and loves you perfectly. Pray that you'll live fearlessly this week as you revel in His love towards you.

#### **Friday**

Please reread all of 1 Corinthians 13, focusing on the fact that this is exactly the way God loves you! He always, hopes, always perseveres, never fails and keeps no record of wrongs! How does this impact your view of God?

How does it impact your view of yourself?

Now read 1 John 4:19–21, another great passage on love. According to these verses, why should we love one another?

When is it hardest for you to love others?

How could you apply what you've learned this last week to help you in that situation?

Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him for setting an example for you to follow. Talk to God about your struggles when it comes to loving others. Pray that His love for you will overflow into those relationships and make a difference.

#### Saturday

Please read Psalm 23 in preparation for this weekend's sermon. How does this psalm encourage you today?

Please pray for this weekend's services. Pray that Pastor Albert Tate will be an encouragement to all of us. Please also pray for Pastor René as he speaks in Missouri this week, that he'll be effective and an encouragement to those who hear him.

