

True Love

1 Corinthians 13

Introduction: Love is part of God's nature — He has always been loving and He will always be loving.

Ephesians 5:1-2; John 13:34-35; John 17:26; 1 John 4:20-21

There is no greater quality to be possessed by a Christian than love!

Key Truth: *You must define love Biblically so that you can pursue it as a way of life.*

I. Why You Should Pursue Love

Love is the only motive that gives value to our actions in the sight of God.

Proverbs 21:2; 1 Corinthians 4:5

II. How the Bible Defines Love

Galatians 5:22; Romans 5:5

1 Corinthians 14:1, "Pursue love..."

Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 Timothy 6:11b; 2 Timothy 2:22b

It is through meditating on these verses that love will begin to influence your life.

	Verse	Description
1	13:4	Patient = waiting for someone without <u>complaining</u>
2	13:4	Kind = the opposite of <u>harshness</u> Must be held in balance with Mark 11:15-19; John 2:13-17
3	13:4	Does not Envy = not desiring to be <u>like</u> someone else
4	13:4	Does not Boast = not <u>bragging</u> on yourself; cf. Proverbs 27:2
5	13:4	Is not Arrogant = not having an <u>exaggerated</u> view of yourself, not puffed up
6	13:5	Is not Rude = not acting <u>inappropriately</u> ; cf. 1 Corinthians 7:36
7	13:5	Does not Insist on its own Way = concerned about what's in the best <u>interest</u> of others; cf. 1 Corinthians 10:24
8	13:5	Is not Irritable = not <u>easily</u> angered
9	13:5	Is not Resentful = not keeping a <u>record</u> of wrongs; cf. Matthew 18:21-35
10	13:6	Does not Rejoice at Wrongdoing
11	13:6	Rejoices with the Truth ; cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12
12	13:7	Bears all Things
13	13:7	Believes all Things
14	13:7	Hopes all Things = Love is not <u>cynical</u> or despairing.
15	13:7	Endures all Things
16	13:8	Never Ends = love is eternal

2 Timothy 3:1-5

If you aren't actively pursuing true love, you'll default to self-love.