



Love is ...

1 Corinthians 13

Part 1





"God is love"

1 John 4:16

**"he that dwells in love, dwells in
God, and God in him."**



A new commandment I give unto you,
That ye love one another; as I have
loved you, that ye also love one
another. By this shall all men know
that ye are my disciples, if ye have
love one to another.

 John 13:34-35

As the Father hath loved me,
so have I loved you: continue
ye in my love.

 John 15:9

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.


Romans 13:8-9

Let all that you do be done
in love.


1 Corinthians 16:14


Two misunderstandings about this chapter:

1. 1 Corinthians 13 is not primarily about love; it is about spiritual gifts.
2. 1 Corinthians 13 is not primarily about romantic love, marriage love or even family love; it is about loving others in the family of Christ (church).



[1] Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

[2] And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

[3] And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

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2. It does not matter what I think I know (*vs. 2*).

3. It does not matter what I think I've done (*vs. 3*).

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***How to be a
BIG ZERO!***

How to be a BIG ZERO!

- 1. Stand up and speak eloquently (so everyone is impressed) ... but don't demonstrate love to your wife or kids (vs. 1).**
- 2. Let everybody know that you have great stores of spiritual wisdom and understanding - demonstrate great faith but when someone at church or another Christian brother or sister offends you - blow them off; talk about them behind their back; criticize them (vs. 2).**
- 3. Make great sacrifices financially - even be willing to sacrifice your life...but don't love your neighbors, treat people badly at work and make enemies across the community.**



Paul shines love through a prism, and we see 15 of its colors and hues, the spectrum of love. Each ray gives a facet, a property of agape love.

John MacArthur





Characteristic #1

Love is PATIENT

————— 1 Corinthians 13:4 —————

long-wrathed; long-tempered

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.



2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise...

A decorative flourish in pink and red ink, featuring a central swirl and floral motifs.

2 Peter 3:9-10