

LESSON 10
LOVELINESS
1 CORINTHIANS 13:1–13



1 Who was your first childhood “love”?

2 How has your understanding of love changed since then?



Read 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 and the following notes:

☐ 13:1f ☐ 13:4–7 ☐ 13:12 ☐ 13:13

3 What good things can be used or seen as a substitute for love (13:1–3)?

4 Why is love so important (13:1–3)?

5 What symptoms show that love is missing in the life of a believer (13:4–8)?

6 What feature of love sets it apart from all the spiritual gifts (13:8–12)?

The Corinthian believers were very gifted people (1:7). In fact, they had impressive gifts, such as prophecy, tongues, and faith. But the Corinthians were unloving in the way they treated each other and took pride in their gifts. They lived as if spiritual gifts were more important than love. But Paul pointed out that love is most important of all. No matter what your talents and abilities, what really matters to God is whether you demonstrate love toward others.



7 How would you summarize the description of love in this chapter?

8 How has God demonstrated this kind of love?

9 What makes it difficult for us to love this way?

10 How can Christians find the motivation and strength to love as they should?

11 Many people talk about love, but there seem to be few loving people. What often takes the place of love in our society?



12 In the spirit of 1 Corinthians 13:1–3, fill in the blank with a talent or ability you have: "If I have the gift of _____, without love I would be no good to anybody."

13 How could this gift be used in an unloving way?

14 How could you exercise this gift in a loving way?

15 When is it difficult for you to act in love toward someone close to you?

16 What will it take for you to be more consistently loving toward others?

17 Think of one relationship in which you need to demonstrate love. How do your actions toward this person need to change?



18 What will you do for this person in the coming week?

A When will we no longer need spiritual gifts (13:9, 10)? How should we use them in the meantime? Who could benefit from the use of your gifts?

B What is hopeful about the future for Christians (13:8–12)? What about this encourages you? How can your life reflect this hope now?

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