

# “LOVE... Defined Described”

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (Part 3)

### Introduction

*1 Corinthians 13:1-13 -*

The command to love like Christ involves (at least these three things)...

- 1) ...an \_\_\_\_\_ motivation. (Luke 7:47; Romans 5:20b)
- 2) ...a \_\_\_\_\_ example. (John 13:1b)
- 3) ...dependence upon the \_\_\_\_\_ . (Romans 5:5)

### I. Paul's Description of Love: A Portrait of Jesus Christ

- 1) Love is patience in action: Enduring wrong without taking revenge or complaining.
- 2) Love is kindness in action: Doing good to those who do not deserve it.
- 3) Love does not act motivated by envy & jealousy: Love rejoices in Christ and with others.
- 4) Love does not boast: Love does not try to make others feel inferior.
- 5) Love is not arrogant: Love is not consumed with self but is outward looking.
- 6) Love is not rude: Love honors & respects people as image bearers of God.
- 7) Love does not insist on its own way: Love considers others first.
- 8) Love is not irritable: Love entrusts itself and its circumstances to God.
- 9) Love is not resentful: Love longs for & seeks forgiveness and reconciliation.
- 10) Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing: Love cannot delight in sin.
- 11) Love rejoices with the truth: Love desires to see people in true fellowship with God.

**12) Love BEARS all things:** Love protects others by absorbing & \_\_\_\_\_ their burdens.

Note: The word translated as “bear” is the Greek word “στέγω” (stego); and one meaning of this Greek word is “to cover or enclose in \_\_\_\_\_”.

*Matthew 18:15-17 - “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother...”*

*Proverbs 10:12 - “Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.”*

*Proverbs 16:28 - “A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends.”*

*Proverbs 17:9 - “Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.”*

*Galatians 6:2 - “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”*

*1 Peter 2:24 - “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.”*

*Isaiah 43:25 - “I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.”*

**13) Love BELIEVES all things:** Love is not jaded/cynical but \_\_\_\_\_ & waits for God to act!

Note: Love believes that in ALL THINGS God can work for our good and for His \_\_\_\_\_.

Note: The resolute belief of love is \_\_\_\_\_ in and grows out of God's revealed truth!

*Luke 22:31-32 - "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."*

*Philippians 1:3-6 -*

**14) Love HOPES all things:** Love trusts God's plan and \_\_\_\_\_ (longs for) God to act!

*Psalms 33:13-22; 119:81, 114, 116, 147 -*

*Romans 15:13 - "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."*

*Romans 8:24-25 - "For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."*

*Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."*

**15) Love ENDURES all things:** Love stands strong & \_\_\_\_\_!

Note: The word translated as "endure" is a military term used to speak of an army \_\_\_\_\_ a position while under attack.

*Hebrews 12:1-2 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."*

*1 John 3:1-3 -*

**Study questions for times of personal & family worship:**

- 1) What does it mean that love "bears all things" and protects others?
- 2) What things did Christ "bear" in loving us?
- 3) What does love believe?
- 4) Why is love not cynical and jaded and pessimistic?
- 5) What does love hope for?
- 6) What is the basis for love's hope?
- 7) What is the basis for God's enduring love? How can our love endure?

*Ephesians 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."*