

Love in Your Home

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The Potential of the Church in Corinth

- **Great beginning**
- **Division, majored on the minors:**
 - Their freedom over their brother's needs
 - Their gifts over the glory of God
 - Their knowledge and talents over the love of God
- **Nothing works right when love is neglected.**

Your Home

- Single, married, kids, or blended
- Surrendered from the start or redeemed
- Home is where love is.
- Love should color every relationship, every conversation, and every action.
- Everything works better in the home when love undergirds everything.

1. The Priority of Love

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

1. The Priority of Love

- **Gifts, talents, callings are important, but are rendered weak and useless without love.**
- **Gifts, talents, callings become empowered with love.**
- **Only a transformed heart can receive and share the love of God.**

The Priority of Love in the Home

- Parental success, wisdom, and sacrifice mean very little to children unless they share the bond of love with their parents.
- Bonding Intimacy:
 - Sharing thoughts and ideas
 - Sharing feelings
 - Establishing trust

Quote from *The Bond*

“The closer a child's bond is with a father, the more likely the child will be to avoid cigarettes, alcohol, and hard drugs. Another study showed that girls whose fathers give them positive reinforcement tend to display less antisocial behavior.” (*The Bond*, by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt, 2008.)

2. The Properties of Love

“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

2. The Properties of Love

- Love comes from God so it looks like God.
- Our hearts must be transformed by God.
- Love is resilient – it protects its object.
- Love looks for the best, sees the potential, and tenderly endures disappointments.
- Love is not resentful, it keeps no record of wrongs.

3. The Permanence of Love

“Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways” (1 Corinthians 13:8-11)

3. The Permanence of Love

“For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:12-13).

3. The Permanency of Love

- Love is practical, mature, and eternal.
- If you are in a mess – whether you have made it yourself or others have made it for you – love your way out of it!
- God's love received creates a new confidence and a new transparency with others.

Love in Eternity

“I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them” (John 17:26)