

Gamma Bible Study

The Gospel and Love – 1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient, love is kind.

1. How does vv 1-4 help us understand what our response should be toward the people (family/spouse/children/friends) who have offended/ rebelled against us?
2. Who are the people in your life that you have trouble loving because of something they have done to you? What is your response to them?
3. How have you been responsible for causing pain in the lives of others?
4. Have there been times this week when you failed to minister kindness to others?
5. How do we administer kindness to those around you?

⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

6. Consider the last time you had a disagreement with someone. What role did pride have in this disagreement? What would have happened if you had swallowed your pride? (v4)
7. What personal comforts or rights, when threatened, provoke you to anger? (v5)
8. Have you been hurt in the past by someone? What are your thoughts toward that person today? Are you willing to forgive right now? (v5)
9. Can you remember a time when you delighted in mocking someone? What does this tell you about how much you were showing the love of Christ at that time? (v6)
10. When were some times where instead of being the protector of others, you have been the attacker? (v7)

⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹²For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

11.Examine your relationships. Is there any way in which you are not acting out of love towards those around you? (vv8-10)

12.Have you ever found yourself questioning the love of God for you? What keeps you from experiencing the fullness of God's love for you? (vv 11-12)

¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

13.Pray together to thank the Lord that he is willing to love you and teach you to love. Ask the Lord to help you love others even as he loves you.