

## UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

1 Corinthians 13.4-7

# Unconditional Love

During June, we are talking about strengthening family relationships. We're learning about three important principles (humility, love, & forgiveness) that will improve any relationship, no matter how damaged. Today, we're going to examine 1 Corinthians 13. It is the highpoint of the Christian experience to demonstrate the type of love described in this chapter.

### I. APPLYING THE CONTEXT TO OUR TOPIC:

- A. Corinth was a church full of conflict. Separation, lawsuits, carnality, and pride.
- B. 2 Corinthians 12.20: *quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder.*
- C. Love should mark us as a key characteristic of our life.
- D. *How do we get there?* Galatians 5.16-25.

### II. THE PERFECTION OF LOVE (What does love do? How does it behave?)

- A. 13.4
  - 1. 4a - Love is **patient** (1) and **kind** (2).
  - 2. 4b - Love **does not envy** (3) or **boast** (4). It is not **arrogant** (5).
- B. 13.5
  - 1. 5a - Love is not **rude** (6).
  - 2. 5b - *It does not insist on its own way* (7). Love yields all personal rights.
  - 3. 5c - It is not **irritable** (8).
  - 4. 5d - It is not **resentful** (9).
- C. 13.6
  - 1. 6a - *It does not rejoice at wrongdoing* (10).
  - 2. 6b - instead of applauding sin, **it rejoices with the truth** (11).
- D. 13.7
  - 1. 7a - **Bears all things** (12) - means *to cover with silence*. See 1 Peter 4.8 - *Love covers a multitude of sins.*
  - 2. 7b - **Believes all things** (13). It's not suspicious. Believes the best.
  - 3. 7c - **Hopes all things** (14).
  - 4. 7d - **Endures all things** (15) - a military term. Idea: sustain. Love holds on.

### III. CONCLUSION

- A. 1 Corinthians 13.13 - Love's preeminence. Are you demonstrating it in your life?
- B. Galatians 5.22-25 - Relationships will improve when we take the focus off of self.
- C. Do you need Jesus?