# Love Defined Pt 2 of 2

**Adam Willingham** · 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

## INTRODUCTION

- When the rubber meets the road, the real test is do we show love and demonstrate love to the people in our lives around us that might be hard to deal with sometimes.
- The Corinthians were having a hard time loving one another. And so Paul's remedy for that problem was 1 Corinthians 13.

## 1 Love Is Not Provoked

**Philippians 4:5**

- There actually is a Bible verse that says we are not allowed to be irritable and touchy. It's this facet of love that love is not provoked.
- We should not be easily offended. We should not be given to fiery emotional outbursts of anger.
- Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Gentleness, not anger, irritability, frustration.
- Our Lord was not provoked, and we, as his followers must not be provoked if we are to be people of love.

## 2 Love Keeps No Record of Wrongs

- Someone has offended you or sinned against you, and love is the choice to say, you know what? I know that happened, but I'm not going to credit it against them.
- It's a victim mentality, and it's not love, because love keeps no record of wrongs.
- Love is not focused on other people's wrongdoings, but on our own faults.

## 3 Love Does Not Rejoice in Unrighteousness but Rejoices With Truth

**Romans 1:32; 3 John 4**

- When there is sin in someone's life, it should grieve our hearts, not bring joy to our hearts.
- They not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them. Let us not do that, brethren.
- When others obey God's truth, love responds with overwhelming joy.
- We should be rejoicing that the truth is upheld, that we have elders who are going to stand up for the truth, that we have preachers who are going to preach the truth.

## 4 Love Bears All Things

**Galatians 6:2; 1 Corinthians 8:13**

- Bearing all things in this context, I believe, means undergoing difficulty for the good of one another.

- If something could cause a brother to stumble, love bears the burden of giving that thing up, even a thing that is within your rights.
- Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.
- So love is willing to give up things that actually are within our rights for the good of one another.

## 5 Love Believes All Things

**Philemon 21**

- Love is always eager to believe the best, to give the benefit of the doubt. Love eliminates unfounded suspicion and doesn't judge another person's motives.
- It speaks to this idea of fostering a community of mutual trust. And that's what we need to have in the church.
- Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say.
- When you hear some bad news about a person, do you instinctively think the worst? Or do you instinctively think the best?

## 6 Love Hopes All Things and Endures All Things

**John 13:1**

- Failure is never final where love exists.
- Are there any of your brothers or sisters who've begun to wander from the faith that maybe you've given up on? Don't do it.
- Love always perseveres. We as a spiritual family of God need to have a love that is for better or for worse.
- It's not easy to bear all things for your church family. But it's possible because love endures all things.
- Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. And that's the kind of love that endures all things.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Is that the character and the reputation of this local church? I believe that it is, but as always, we could always do better.**

MY NOTES