



# “THE GIFTS”



- **Love is not resentful or keep account of wrongs.** When we keep a \_\_\_\_\_ of people's shortcomings, failures, what they did, said etc. to us, it only adds \_\_\_\_\_ to becoming \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ towards them and doesn't bring about true \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.**
  - This is showing \_\_\_\_\_ with sin or allowing sin to \_\_\_\_\_ and not feel any \_\_\_\_\_.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ sin is an affront to God- Isaiah 5:20, Romans 1:32
  - Subtle way we tolerate rejoicing at wrongdoing in the church- \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember, this description of what love is and what love is not was to serve as a guide for how the Corinthians were behaving. Paul wanted them to see that the way they were using their spiritual gifts was not in a loving way. In other words their behavior towards one another revealed that they were not walking in love. Can a believer live the way God describes love? On your own.... No, but with a faithful and loving God who enables us through the power of the Holy Spirit we can strive to actually live the way God desires for us to live. We serve a God who is love (I John 4:8) and showed us the culmination of all of these descriptions of love at the cross. Romans 5:6-11

We CAN be loving, because Christ showed us the way and we have the Holy Spirit who will enable us.

Text Corinthians 13:4-6

There are 4 main passages of Scripture that teach us about the listing of the Spiritual gifts: Ephesians 4, I Peter 4, Romans 12 and I Corinthians 12. I Corinthians 12, 13, 14 gives us a whole breakdown of the spiritual gifts on not only what the purpose of them is but also how they were to be used in the body.

I Corinthians 13 tells us how the gifts are to be used. They are to be used in love. The gifts were not the issue, but rather how they were being used.

Paul in this passage is now going to describe for us what love is. He does this with two positive statements followed by 7 negative statements.

Take away for today: \_\_\_\_\_

#### I. **God's positive description of what love is. Vs 4**

- Positive description #1- Love is \_\_\_\_\_. This word is best translated as \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is long-suffering- Exodus 34:6, Romans 2:4, Romans 9:22, I Timothy 1:16, I Peter 3:20, II Peter 3:9,15.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of someone who was long-suffering while under tremendous persecution. I Samuel 24
- The greatest example of long-suffering is \_\_\_\_\_ in providing \_\_\_\_\_ to us. I Timothy 1:12-16.

- Long-suffering is not \_\_\_\_\_. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ and we are commanded to be long-suffering. Galatians 5:22, Ephesians 4:2, I Thessalonians 5:14. (Several resources are available in the back of the auditorium that deal with how to be long suffering in the midst of difficulties)
- Positive description #2- Love is \_\_\_\_\_. Patience is the \_\_\_\_\_ side of love, kindness is the \_\_\_\_\_ side.
  - Kindness is "to actively do good to others. It has its roots in providing what is \_\_\_\_\_. It is actively \_\_\_\_\_ of those about them."
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ is a good illustration of what kindness looks like. Luke 10:30-37.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ is a good example of kindness. He provided for \_\_\_\_\_, Jonathans son who was the house of Saul all the days of his life. 2 Samuel 9
  - Our \_\_\_\_\_ is kind- Luke 6:35, Romans 2:4, Ephesians 4:32, Titus 3:4-7, 2 Timothy 2:24, I Peter 3:8.
  - As a Christian you are \_\_\_\_\_ to be kind- Ephesians 4:32, Galatian's 5:22

**Love is demonstrated by two general characteristics: (1) long-suffering in the face of adverse treatment by others and (2) kindness toward those who abuse us. Long-suffering endures \_\_\_\_\_ without responding in a retaliatory fashion, and kindness seeks \_\_\_\_\_ to those who delight to \_\_\_\_\_. That is what love is like. This is a great picture of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

## II. God's negative description of what love is not

- **Love is not envious or jealous.**- Jealousy means having a \_\_\_\_\_. Can be both positive and negative. Psalm 73, Psalm 37:1, Genesis 4:1-8, Esther 6, I Samuel 18:7, Matthew 27:18, John 21.
  - Jealousy is not consistent with love. Love makes a sacrifice for others as where jealousy \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of others.
- **Love does not boast and is not arrogant.**
  - Jealousy is my sinful \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ of others as where arrogance and boasting are my sinful response to \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Love does not behave rudely.** Love does not \_\_\_\_\_ bad behavior, but \_\_\_\_\_ good behavior.
- **Love is not self centered. Love does not insists on its own way.**
  - Any fixation with \_\_\_\_\_, is self-centered and \_\_\_\_\_ to the way of love. We need to be reminded that as believers we are not to focus on \_\_\_\_\_ but rather the \_\_\_\_\_. The Christian life is about \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the flesh.
- **Love is not irritable or easily provoked.**
  - Paul is describing a \_\_\_\_\_ person who is easily and quickly provoked to take \_\_\_\_\_ which is not \_\_\_\_\_ to anyone. Love does not " \_\_\_\_\_", " \_\_\_\_\_", or " \_\_\_\_\_". It does not have a \_\_\_\_\_ on its shoulder. James 1:19-20, James 3:13-18 (for further help with battling irritability or anger make yourself available to the resources in the back of the auditorium)