

## 1 Corinthians 13:6 Love and Truth

Last week's notes said that we should be asking ourselves, *does this action: Glorify God, Love others*, and today we add: **Does it grow my vertical relationship?** Grow me closer to God?

### **V. 6 Love does not rejoice in evil/iniquity**

**As believers, we can't rejoice in evil for several reasons.**

**1. It is against God** and we love His holiness, and honor and it is an affront to Him, so it's an affront to us. Love doesn't rejoice in what breaks God's heart.

**Question:** *What areas of my life am I rejoicing in iniquity/unrighteousness? Do I ask the question before engaging in an activity: How would God feel about this?*

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**2. Love recognizes the consequences of sin**, for us and others. Puritan prayer: "O God, rid my tongue of taste for the bait of the devil." The problem is that evil is pleasurable, it tastes great. We do it because sin for the season is enjoyable. Paul says in Rom. 12:9 to *Abhor evil*. God commands it.

**Questions:** *Do I rejoice when others experience consequences to their sin or do I grieve? Can I learn to hate evil/unrighteousness by willpower? If not, how do I?*

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**How do I change my spiritual taste buds so I can love well:**

**1. Rejoice in Truth** That's why Paul follows up V.6 *do not rejoice in evil*, with *True love rejoices in what is right and good*- truth. Goal: have God's perspective on sin and righteousness. The better we understand God's love, the more we will sorrow over those who commit sin and our sin that separates us from it. The more we understand and love the truth, our spiritual taste buds get transformed and the better we can love those around us.

**2. Renew Your Mind.** Romans 12:2 *Be transformed by the renewing of your minds*. What do you renew it on? Truth. Romans 12:1; in view of God's mercies... You only gladly serve truth (context is spiritual gifts) when you know who God is and what he's done. That's why Satan is constantly trying to deceive, manipulate, distort God's truth and character. Ps. 119:104 says *through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way*.

**Question:** *Do I understand how to engage the word of God on a daily basis or would it be helpful to have a "coach" guiding me?*

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**3. Respond to the Holy Spirit's conviction/voice.** The more I respond, the more I hear and the more agape love begins to have a place in my life along with the other fruit of the spirit.

**Question:** *How do I hear God's voice?*

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