

# Sermon 2-14-2021 “Love is...”

## 1st Corinthians 13 NIV

“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. **2** If 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. **3** If 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. **4** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **5** It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. **6** Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. **7** It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. **8** Love 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. **9** For we know in part and we prophesy in part, **10** but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. **11** When 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. **12** For 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. **13** And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

\*Love\* 13 dictionary definitions, with an 5 specific subset definitions on top of that, and 7 extra definitions within those subsets. 25!

## 1 corinthians 13:4-8

Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others,

It is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil (wrongdoing) but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

**John 13:35 ESV**

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Four Loves — C.S. Lewis:

“To love at all is to be vulnerable...Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.”