

I. Introduction: Paul exhorted the Corinthians to love God's people with sacrificial love, which he described for them using fifteen verbs so they would know what love looks like.

- A. The Apostle told the believers in Corinth that God's love is an action, not an emotion. The world's love is based on emotions, not actions, which is why its love is defective.

II. The Description of Love (1 Cor 13:4-7).

A. Love Rejoices With The Truth (v. 6).

B. Love Bears All Things (v. 7).

C. Love Believes All Things (v. 7).

D. Love Hopes All Things (v. 7).

E. Love Endures All Things (v. 7).

III. Conclusion: Paul elevated love to the greatest virtue that the Corinthians could possess and described it as an action so that the people would know what love does.

Questions About: The Description of Love

1. Has your definition of love been changed by studying **1 Cor 13:1-7**? How does the world define love? How is this the opposite of God's definition? In what ways are they opposites?
2. Why does love "rejoice in the truth"? (**1 Cor 13:6**) What is "the truth"? Why does the world reject God's truth? What do you say to those who argue that there is no absolute truth?
3. How should a Christian speak the truth in love? (**Eph 4:15**) What is the believer's responsibility to the truth? (**John 18:37**) How did Jesus speak the truth? (**John 3:11**)
4. What does it mean that love "bears all things" in the church? (**1 Cor 13:7**) How should we cover the sins of others? (**1 Peter 4:8**) How should we bear one another's burdens? (**Gal 6:2**)
5. What does it mean that love "believes all things"? (**1 Cor 13:7**) When a Christian is accused of something, are you immediately suspicious? Do you give people the benefit of the doubt?
6. How does love "hope all things"? (**1 Cor 13:7**) Have you given up on God's people? Do you believe your spouse can change? Do you believe your friends will turn to Christ?
7. Do you "endure all things" for the church body? (**1 Cor 13:7**) How much can you take from God's people before you get angry? How can you endure with other Christians?
8. In what ways do you need God's power to love His church? Do you rejoice in the truth? Do you bear all things? Believe all things? Hope all things? Do you endure all things?

Prayer

1. Ask God to show you how you need to love His people the way He loves them.
2. Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit so that you can love other believers supernaturally.