

## **1 Corinthians 13**

### ***Small Group Guide: The Power of Agape Love***

#### **Key Takeaways:**

1. Agape love is unconditional, sacrificial love that comes from God.
2. Spiritual gifts without love are meaningless.
3. True agape love is described in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.
4. Love is eternal and the greatest of faith, hope, and love.
5. Agape love is powered by the Holy Spirit and evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon on 1 Corinthians 13?
2. The pastor mentioned replacing "love" with your own name in verses 4-7. How did that exercise impact you? Which aspects of love do you find most challenging?
3. Why do you think Paul emphasizes love as more important than spiritual gifts? How does this apply to our church community today?
4. The sermon discussed how we only know and prophesy "in part" now. How does this perspective affect your view of your own spiritual knowledge and growth?
5. How would you explain the difference between human love and God's agape love to someone unfamiliar with the concept?
6. The pastor used the analogy of a chainsaw without fuel to describe believers without agape love. Can you think of times in your life when you've tried to serve God without being powered by His love?

#### **Practical Applications:**

1. Daily Reading Challenge: Read 1 Corinthians 13 every day this week, reflecting on a different aspect each day.
2. Love in Action: Choose one characteristic of love from verses 4-7 to intentionally practice this week. Share your experiences with the group next time.
3. Fruit Check: Evaluate your life for evidence of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Where do you see growth? Where do you need more of God's love?
4. Love Letter: Write a letter to God, thanking Him for His agape love and asking for help in areas where you struggle to love others.
5. Group Accountability: Partner with another group member to encourage each other in growing in love this week through prayer and check-ins.

#### **Closing Prayer:**

Lord, thank you for Your perfect agape love. Help us to receive Your love more fully and to extend it to others. May our spiritual gifts and service be motivated by love, and may we grow in displaying the fruit of Your Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.