



TEACH ME
THE BIBLE PODCAST

STUDY GUIDE

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CHAPTER

13

1 CORINTHIANS

Divisions in the Church



1 Corinthians: Chapter 13

If you are new to the Story of the Bible or would like to review the Story:
Listen to the following TMTB Podcasts:

The Story: Understanding the “Big Story” (30 min)

Old Testament: Walk Through the Broad Story (27 min)

Timeline: New Testament Beginnings (35 min)

Letters: Paul’s Writing to the Churches–Part 1 (30 min)

REVIEW

As Paul explains in chapter 12, the purpose for spiritual gifts is for the building up of the body of Christ. Thus, they should not be the source of contention, division, jealousy, or strife. Moreover, Paul explains that the “greater gifts” are those that he has been given for the building up of the church. Now in chapter 13, he continues that message. The gifts are for building up the body in love. His actions are contrasted with those of the Corinthians in this chapter and set the stage for his instruction concerning the use of languages in chapter 14.



1 Corinthians: Chapter 13

MONDAY

Listen to the Chapter 13 podcast.

TUESDAY

Read chapters 1, 2, 4, 8, and 12 again.

Can you follow Paul's line of reasoning through chapter 13 and into 14?

WEDNESDAY

Love is not arrogant / boastful (read 1:29, 31; 3:21; 4:7; 5:6; 9:15, 16; 13:3, and 15:31. 13:3 is listed because there is a textual issue in that verse. Instead of "to be burned," some of the best and oldest manuscripts reads "in order that I might boast." Boasting concerning gifts for the building up of oneself and the tearing down of the church is a huge problem.

Paul is contrasting himself and his actions with theirs. Can you follow it through his letter?

THURSDAY

Go back and follow Paul's line of reasoning through chapters 2, 3, and 4. Pay particular attention to his words at the beginning of chapter 3. Now read Paul's words in 13:11 and putting away "childish things."

Do you see what he's doing here?

Read Ephesians 4; Romans 12; and Colossians 1. Notice 1) the importance of the body of Christ, 2) how each member is to function in the body, and 3) those members most important for the building up of the body in love.



1 Corinthians: Chapter 13

FRIDAY

Now time for more of the same application that we have been highlighting throughout the book. In light of the differing spiritual gifts and how they are to be used to edify the church, what are some ways that you can express “love” in the body of Christ?

Read 1 Corinthians 12 and 13. Also, read 1 Timothy 1:1-5.

How does “love” and “instruction” go together?

Do you see the priority to “instruction”?

How does that priority relate to “faith, hope, and love” but the greatest is “love”?