

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE  
**1 Corinthians 13:13**

**The Five Keys to Love's Implementation**

1. **Acknowledge** that it is a command (Rom.13:8-10).
2. **Agree** that you have the power (Rom.5:5).
3. **Understand** that it is normal Christian behavior (1 John 4:7-10).
4. **Realize** that it is the Holy Spirit's work (Gal.5:22).
5. **Practice** it (1 Pet.1:22, 4:8)

**Love Thinks No Evil (logizesthai)**

- Thinks (*Logizomai*) is an accounting term that literally means “to keep a mathematical calculation.”
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Middle voice (*subject acts upon himself and is benefitted by the positive choice or suffers the consequences of the negative choice*), Indicative mood (*I am learning to not keep records s this is for my benefit—the reality of growing in spiritual maturity*).

**Love Does Not Rejoice in Iniquity (chairo)**

- Love never takes satisfaction from sin, whether our own sin or that of others.
- Love **does not** keep a ledger in which to enter up wrongs to be dealt with some day.
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*), Indicative mood (*I am learning not to rejoice with unrighteousness—the result of growing in spiritual maturity*).

SPECIAL NOTE: After mentioning eight negatives, things that love is not or does not do, Paul lists five more positives. The first is a contrast with the last negative.

**Love Rejoices in the Truth (sunchairo)**

- Instrumental case: rejoices together with truth.
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*), Indicative mood (*I am learning to rejoice with truth—the reality of growing in spiritual maturity*).

**Love Bears All Things (stego)**

- Love always protects.
- The word in Greek, *stego*, means “cover” or “hide by covering”.

*It is the idea of an umbrella that you put up and invite someone to its shelter from the beating rain. It is the roof put over the head. Love acts as a roof over other people, shielding them from the storm as it sweeps. ~ Dr. G. Campbell Morgan*

- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*), Indicative mood (*I am learning to bear all things—the reality of growing in spiritual maturity*).

### **Love believes All Things (*pisteuo*)**

- This characteristic has a two-fold aspect:
  - (1) In relation to God, it means that love takes God at His Word, and can take every promise which begins “whoever” and say: “*That means me!*”
  - (2) In relation to our fellow men and women it means that love always believes the best about other people.
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*), Indicative mood (*I am learning to believe all things—the result of growing in spiritual maturity*).

### **Love Hopes All Things (*elpidzo*)**

- Jesus believed that no one is beyond hope.
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*) Indicative mood (*I am learning to have hope in all things—the reality of growing in spiritual maturity*).

### **Love Endures All Things (*hupomeno*)**

- Endures is a military term used of an army’s holding a vital position at all costs.
- Every hardship and every suffering was to be endured in order to hold fast.
- Love holds fast to those it loves. It endures all things at all costs. It stands against overwhelming opposition and refuses to stop bearing or stop believing or stop hoping. Love will not stop loving.
- Love bears what is otherwise unbearable; it believes what otherwise is unbelievable; it hopes in what otherwise is hopeless; and it endures when anything less than love would give up.
- After love **bears** it **believes**. After it **believes** it **hopes**. After it **hopes** it **endures**. There is no “after” for endurance, for endurance is the unending climax of love.
- Present tense (*keep reading this*), Active voice (*subject produces the action as he yields his life to the power of the Holy Spirit*), Indicative mood (*I am learning to endure all things—the reality of growing in spiritual maturity*).