

“UNCOMMON LOVE”

Unconditional love is uncommon, but not impossible.

I Corinthians 13:1-7 – If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing. Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Unconditional Love ...

1. Celebrates the success.

- **James 3:14-16** – But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

2. Releases the offense.

- **Hebrews 8:12** – And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.
- **Proverbs 17:9** – Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

3. Endures the adversity.

- **James 1:3-4** – For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

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4. **Sacrifices** the agenda.

- **I John 4:9-10** – God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Coming Soon:

1. **Date Night:** If you're married or engaged, join us for dinner, games, and practical lessons from Matt and Christine Willmington on February 16th 6-9pm. This free event is just five days away, so stop by the Connect Center or visit our Facebook page to sign up today.
2. **DNOW 2024:** One of the most exciting weekends of the year is just around the corner for our 6th-12th grade students: March 1st-3rd. The theme is Kingdom Life. For more details and to sign up, email Madison.sharber@danriverchurch.org.
3. **Fire Fighter Breakfast:** It's a joy to serve those who put their lives on the line for us every day. Stop by the Connect Center to sign up today to help us serve our fire fighters on February 20th.
4. **Connect Class:** If you are interested in becoming a member of Dan River Church (or finding out more about it), join us February 25th for our next Connect Class. Sign up today at the Connect Center.