

Week of July 13, 2025 - Love I

Small Group Lesson 28

Connect

It's often said that food cooked with love just tastes better. Have you ever felt this was true? What do you think is the 'secret ingredient' that makes a meal prepared with love feel so different?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 13:1-7 (CSB)

READ ALOUD:

1 If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, 5 is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. 6 Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. In vv.1-3, what is his main point about these gifts if they are not accompanied by love? In addition, what are the three “I…” statements that he concludes with?

2. In vv.4-7 Paul describes what love "is" and what love "is not." Choose one or two of them and explain in your own words what they mean, or give an example.

3. Paul says that love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (v.7). What do these phrases suggest about the strength and resilience of *true love*, especially in difficult situations?

Share

Discuss 1:
How are we supposed to react when we pour our love into serving and feel unappreciated or even offended by the response? If we feel hurt, does that mean our love wasn't "true love" to begin with? How would the Lord want us to respond?

Discuss 2:
What is *true* love? Is your definition a biblical one? Why or why not?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.