



I Corinthians 13 (CEB)

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. 3 If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever.

4 Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, 5 it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, 6 it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. 7 Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. 9 We know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. 11 When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. 12 Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. 13 Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

Nine components of Agape Love are listed below with definitions describing the way each component of love is lived out. After each definition, there are two reflection questions.

Plan to work through this list either alone, as a quiet devotional and reflection time each day, answering the questions honestly, perhaps one a day, or even once a week. Or plan to discuss with a partner or your family one component each day or one per week.

Focus your thoughts on the times you do well with the component and identify places you desire to change, places you need to do better. Pray for God to help you as you work on one component at a time. At the end of your reflection and prayer time, pray for our church and our new campus in Broad Ripple.

Nine Components of Agape Love from I Corinthians 13

(Adapted from The Most Loving Place In Town by Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges)

Patience

Love as patience endures evil, injury, and provocation without being filled with resentment, indignation, or revenge. It will put up with many slights and neglects from the person it loves and waits long to see the kindly effects of such patience on that person.

- When do I demonstrate love as patience?
- When do I struggle to demonstrate love as patience?

Kindness

Love as kindness is active. Kindness seeks to be useful. It not only seizes on opportunities for doing good but also searches for them.

- When do I express love as kindness?
- When do I struggle with expressing love as kindness?



Generosity (Not Jealous or Envious or Arrogant)

Love as generosity does not envy the good fortune or accomplishments of others. If we love our neighbor, we will be so far from envying our neighbor and what our neighbor possesses or accomplishes that we will share in it and rejoice at it. The prosperity of those to whom we wish well can never grieve us.

- When do I express love as generosity?
- When do I struggle with expressing love as generosity?

Courtesy (Is Not Rude)

Love as courtesy is love in the little things. It behaves toward all people with goodwill. It seeks to promote the happiness of all. It avoids profane and indecent language and coarse and vulgar expressions that pain the ear and offend the hearts of others.

- When do I exhibit love as courtesy?
- When do I struggle to exhibit love as courtesy?

Humility (Does Not Brag)

Love as humility does not promote or call attention to itself, is not puffed up, is not bloated with self-conceit, and does not dwell upon its accomplishments. When true agape love is exhibited, we will find things to praise in others and will esteem others.

- When do I express love as humility?
- When do I struggle with expressing love as humility?



Unselfishness (Doesn't Seek Own Advantage)

Love as unselfishness never seeks its own to the harm or disadvantage of others or the neglect of others. It often neglects its own for the sake of others; it prefers their welfare, satisfaction, and advantage to its own; and it ever prefers the good of the community to its private advantage. It would not advance, aggrandize, enrich, or gratify itself at the cost and damage to the public.

- When do I express love as unselfishness?
- When do I struggle to express love as unselfishness?

Good Temper (Not Irritable)

Love as good temper restrains the passions and is not exasperated. It corrects a sharpness of temper and sweetens and softens attitudes. Love as good temper is never angry without a cause and endeavors to confine the passions with proper limits. Anger cannot rest in the heart where love reigns. It is hard to be angry with loved ones in good temper but very easy to drop resentments and be reconciled.

- When do I exhibit love as good temper?
- When do I struggle to exhibit love as good temper?

Guilelessness

Love as guilelessness thinks no evil, suspects no ill motive, sees the bright side, and puts the best construction on every action. It is grace for suspicious people. It cherishes no malice; it does not give way to revenge. It is not apt to be jealous and suspicious.

- When do I model love as guilelessness?
- When do I struggle to model love as guilelessness?

Sincerity

Love as sincerity takes no pleasure in doing injury or hurt to others or broadcasting their seeming miscues. It speaks only what is known to be true, necessary, and edifying. It bears no false witness and does no gossip. It rejoices in the truth.

- When do I demonstrate love as sincerity?
- When do I struggle to demonstrate love as sincerity?