

Mini-Series: Growing in Gratitude

And This is Love Pt. 1

1 Cor 13:4-8a

Introduction:

God's Love (Agape) – is not the love of emotion or the love of feeling, but the love of Choice. It is the highest and noblest kind of Love, the love of the will. This love only comes from God.

" The Bible's simplest description of God is - God is Love and the Apostle Paul shares 15 facets of His love"

I. God's Love and the Church at Corinth

- a. Love was missing in the Church at Corinth
- b. But Spiritual Gifts were present 1 Cor 1:7
- c. And the right doctrine for the most part was present 1 Cor 11:2
- d. The Corinthian Christians were not walking in the Spirit.

II. Agape -Love

- a. Never refers to romantic or sexual love
- b. Nor does it refer to mere sentiment or pleasant feelings about someone
- c. And it doesn't mean friendship or brotherly love.
- d. Jesus modeled this love when He washed His disciples' feet.

III. Facet: Love Is Patient v.4a

- a. Meaning love practices being patient
- b. This love is mainly used for being patient with people rather than circumstances
- c. Patience never retaliates

IV. Facet: Love Is Kind v.4b

- a. Kindness will give anything to others even to its enemies
- b. To be kind means to be useful, serving, and gracious

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V. Facet: Love Is Not Jealous v.4c

- a. 2 forms of Jealously
 - i. I want what someone else has
 - ii. I wish they didn't have what they have

VI. Facet: Love Does Not Brag v.4d

- a. To Brag means to talk conceitedly
- b. Loves does not parade its accomplishments
- c. It is the epitome of pride, which is the root sin of all sins.

VII. Facet: Love Is Not Arrogant v.4e

- a. Everything good that the Corinthians had came from God
- b. They had no reason to boast and be arrogant

VIII. Facet: Love Does Not Act Unbecomingly v.5a

- a. This is dealing with poor manners
- b. It is not as serious as arrogance, but it stems from the same lack of love.

IX. Facet: Love Does Not Seek Its Own v.5b

- a. The root evil of fallen humanity is wanting to have its own way
- b. Love is not preoccupied with its own things, but with the interests of others Phil 2:4

X. Facet: Love Is Not Provoked v.5c

- a. Provoked means to arouse to anger and sudden outburst of emotion or action
- b. Love cannot rejoice in unrighteousness 1 Cor 13:6

XI. Facet: Love Does Not Take Into Account Wrong v.5d

- a. Love does not keep a record of wrong suffered
- b. If you do, it is a sure way to unhappiness, your own and of those whom you keep records
- c. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not take into account Rom 4:8