

Where Love Is 3

Series part3

August 4, 2024

Scripture Text: 1 Corinthians 13:5-9 ESV verse 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part,

Verse 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

God's love for us has been patient and kind, enduring through all of our trials and tribulations. Whenever you and I survey our lives daily, we don't have to think hard, scratch our heads, look up into the sky, and wonder if God loves us. Each day, we are honored with a new opportunity to reflect on Father God, who has redeemed us by the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ... His only Son

He has given us the powerful gift of free will to choose what is just and lawful in His sight. When we sin, He lovingly allows the Holy Spirit to remind us of our infraction, giving us time and grace to be transformed in spirit and mind, inspiring us to be better versions of ourselves.

We recognize that **God doesn't insist** on us calling on Him, but we are so much better off if we do. **Psalms 51:10-12 ESV: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit."**

This renewal of joy, this profound sense of being saved, uplifts us, fills us with hope, and encourages us to share this joy with others.

God's love within us desires and looks for ways for others to know and experience His love and prosperity by doing His will.

In our flesh, we can lose patience to the point of becoming resentful when others are a little over top... as they cry out to God or express their love for the Lord. **Jeremiah 33:3: "Call to me, and I will answer you and tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."**

VERSE 6: *it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.*

Our adversary is very subtle in influencing us to accept evil (wrongdoing) over what is good. Satan deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden to accept an alternative truth after God spoke the truth that they would die if they violated His will. If your heart is not cleansed, you will cheer for villains as heroes for living a lie and deceiving others.

Are you aware that a growing spirit is at work, captivating people's minds and hearts to rejoice at wrongdoings over righteousness and truth?

Pure Love is elated, thrilled, ecstatic, and overjoyed with the truth that sets every captive free. When the Lord blesses others, can you truly rejoice and be glad about them, even if your need has yet to be fulfilled?

Love wants the best for others and refuses to taint situations against others. They may think, "They don't need it... others need a blessing, or I need it more than they do!"

VERSE 7 *Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

Paul has expanded the boundaries of love by reminding us that Agape Love bears all things. We can all agree that we can bear some things, believe some things, hope some things, and endure some things. We can agree that people quickly judge, condemn, and lose hope when things do not fit their image. This higher standard of love challenges us by enlarging our hearts in the power of the Holy Spirit to have the capacity for Agape love. Then, our love can bear all things, believe, hope, and endure all things.

Lord, in the power of your Name, we will bear the infirmities of the weak as your disciples.

Lord, in the power of your Name, we will believe all things concerning your will for our future.

Lord, in the power of your Name, we will hope eternally in your word and not the devil's lies.

Lord, in the power of your Name, we will endure all for the sake of others having life in your eternal presence.

1 Peter 4:8 says, "Above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."

One day, Love came down and washed all our sins away with His precious blood.

Applications: When love is fully embraced, it leaves no room for the ego to hold center stage. Love brings balance to all that God has created for His glory.