

February 19, 2017
I Corinthians 12:31-13:8

THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF LOVE

I. Introduction:

The Greatest Commandments: Matthew 22:34-39

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, "love your neighbor as yourself."

The New Commandment: John 13:34-35

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God: and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God for God is love. I John 4:7-8

II. Love is Essential

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. [2] If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. [3] If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing." I Corinthians 12:31-13:3)

The Three Loves:

Phileo:

Eros:

Agape:

III. Love is Evident

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
I Corinthians 13:4-7

IV. Love is Eternal

“Love never fails.” (I Corinthians 13:8)

V. Conclusion and Application:

Love is the foundation of every command he has given us:

“The entire law is summed up in a single command:
“Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Galatians 5:14)

POINTS TO PONDER
THE Transforming Power Of Love
Week of February 19th to 25th
I Corinthians 12:31-13:8

Open It

1. What to you is an unmistakable demonstration of love?
2. *Who is the most loving person you know? Why do you think so?
3. What qualities do you associate with love?

Explore It

4. What makes speaking in tongues, faith, generosity, and even martyrdom worthless? (13:1-3)
5. How could a person use spiritual gifts in a useless manner? (13:1-3)
6. *What do we gain if we don't have love? (13:3)
7. Why is love important? (13:3)
8. *What qualities does love have? (13:4-8)
9. Why will prophecy, tongues, and knowledge pass away? (13:8-9)
10. How will we be different when we see Christ? (13:10-12)
11. What is our spiritual imperfection like? (13:11)
12. How do adults and children act and reason differently? (13:11)

13. How will our knowledge of God change when we see Christ? (13:12)

14. *What is the greatest of all gifts? (13:13)

Get It

15. Why do you think Paul wrote about love to the Corinthians?

16. Why might it be easy to use a spiritual gift without love?

17. How can a person demonstrate love?

18. How should Christians demonstrate love for each other?

19. *In what practical ways can you show a love that never fails?

20. How did Jesus exemplify love?

21. Why won't prophecy, knowledge, and tongues be necessary when Jesus returns?

22. *When have you received the love described in this passage?

23. What is difficult about loving?

24. What expectations do you have, knowing you will see Jesus face to face one day?

Apply It

25. What will help you to remember to use your gifts in a loving way?

26. *How could you show love to a difficult person this week?